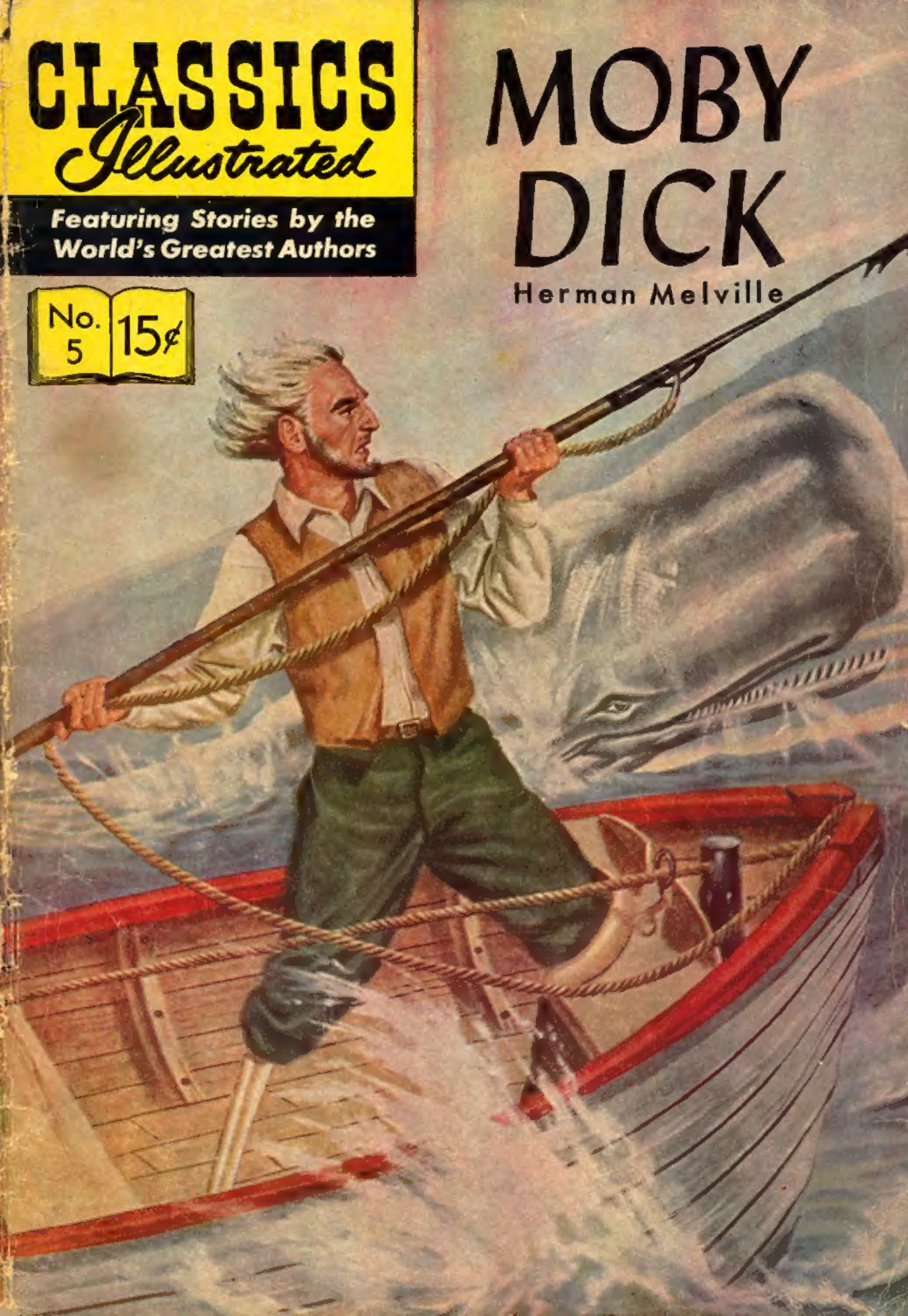
CLASSICS Illustrated

Featuring Stories by the World's Greatest Authors

No. 5 15¢

MOBY DICK

Herman Melville



COLLECT AND PRESERVE YOUR COPIES OF

CLASSICS *Illustrated*

IN AN ATTRACTIVE, PERMANENT BINDER

HANDSOME, durable, made to last a life-time of handling.
Each binder (holding 12 books securely) is covered in beautiful, simulated, brown leather and richly imprinted in gold on both cover and backbone.

GET YOURS NOW $1.00 EACH POSTPAID ($1.50 in Canada)

GILBERTON CO., INC. DEPT. S
101 FIFTH AVE. • NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
Herewith is $..... . Please send
..... binders, postpaid.
Name.....
(Please Print)
Address.....
City..... Zone..... State.....

WHO AM I?

I am a famous literary character. Can you guess my name from the clues below? Rate your familiarity with me as follows: If you can identify me from CLUE I, your score is superior; from CLUE II — excellent; from CLUE III—very good; from CLUE IV—good; from CLUE V—fair. If after CLUE V you still cannot identify me, I suggest you read the exciting story in which I appear.

CLUE I: I was an American explorer who hunted wild animals to capture them for zoos.

CLUE II: When I was a boy in Texas, I earned money collecting rattlesnakes for a man in Rochester, New York, who used rattlesnake oil to make rheumatism medicines. Later, I made a trip to South America.

CLUE III: I set up a permanent camp in the jungles of Malaya, where the animals I trapped were kept. The camp was full of life and excitement because we had to keep the animals healthy without letting them escape. Once, I received an order for two male elephants. To get them we had to capture a whole herd.

CLUE IV: We built a huge kraal, or pen, and strengthened it with heavy logs. Then, when a herd was near, we stampeded it into the kraal. With the help of tame elephants, we separated the ones we wanted, and afterward set the rest of the herd free.

CLUE V: Another time, I captured a spitting cobra. He could shoot his poisonous venom as far as four feet. At camp, I noticed that the cobra was without water. As I tried to give him some, he shot. My eyes stung. I could not see, but I had to keep him from escaping. The exciting climax to my story can be found in my book, *On Jungle Trails.*

FRANK BUCK

CLASSICS *Illustrated*... Published and Copyrighted by the GILBERTON COMPANY, INC., 101 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N. Y. All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this book or portions thereof in any form. Printed in U. S. A.

SUBSCRIBE NOW! TODAY!

A world of ADVENTURE, TRAVEL & HISTORY awaits you

DON'T MISS AN ISSUE! THEY'RE GREAT!

Join the fun. The world around us is full of interesting places, people, animals and events of all kinds. You can find them all in the exciting new magazine, "THE WORLD AROUND US."

Each month, a new issue is published — a new world is opened to you. A subscription to "THE WORLD AROUND US" will be your passport to a continuous reading treat.

Only $3.00 for a full year — 12 big issues.

Use the coupon below (or a facsimile) to order your subscription. Should you wish to order more than one subscription, use a separate sheet of paper.

GILBERTON WORLD-WIDE PUBLICATIONS, INC. **Dept. CI**
101 FIFTH AVENUE **NEW YORK 3, N. Y.**

Enclosed is $_____. Enter my subscription for _____ issues of THE WORLD AROUND US to be sent postpaid as issued.

Name _____
(Please Print or Type)

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

READ THE BEST IN THE WORLD'S FINEST JUVENILE PUBLICATION

CLASSICS *Illustrated*

ON SALE AT YOUR FAVORITE DEALER OR VARIETY STORE. IF THEY'RE OUT OF STOCK, ORDER DIRECT FROM US.

MAKE YOUR SELECTION FROM THESE THRILLING - EXCITING - ROMANTIC ADVENTURE STORIES.

THEY'RE ONLY 15¢ EACH

1. The Three Musketeers
2. Ivanhoe
3. The Count of Monte Cristo
4. The Last of the Mohicans
5. Moby Dick
6. A Tale of Two Cities
7. Robin Hood
10. Robinson Crusoe
11. Don Quixote
12. Rip Van Winkle
13. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
15. Uncle Tom's Cabin
16. Gulliver's Travels
17. The Deerslayer
18. The Hunchback of Notre Dame
19. Huckleberry Finn
22. The Pathfinder
23. Oliver Twist
24. A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
25. Two Years Before the Mast
26. Frankenstein
27. The Adventures of Marco Polo
28. Michael Strogoff
29. The Prince and the Pauper
30. The Moonstone
31. The Black Arrow
32. L[illegible]
34. M[illegible] Island
36. Ty[illegible]
37. Th[illegible]
39. Jane [illegible]
41. Twenty [illegible] After
42. Swiss Family Robinson
46. Kidnapped
47. Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea
48. David Copperfield
49. Alice in Wonderland
50. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
51. The Spy
52. The House of the Seven Gables
54. The Man in the Iron Mask
55. Silas Marner
57. The Song of Hiawatha
58. The Prairie
59. Wuthering Heights
61. The Women in White
62. Western Stories
63. The Man Without a Country
64. Treasure Island
65. Benjamin Franklin
67. The Scottish Chiefs
68. Julius Caesar
69. Around the World in Eighty Days
70. The Pilot
72. The Oregon Trail
75. The Lady of the Lake
76. The Prisoner of Zenda
77. The Iliad
78. Joan of Arc
79. Cyrano de Bergerac
80. White Fang
83. The Jungle Book
85. The Sea Wolf
86. Under Two Flags
88. Men of Iron
89. Crime and Punishment
90. Green Mansions
91. The Call of the Wild
96. Daniel Boone
97. King Solomon's Mines
98. The Red Badge of Courage
99. Hamlet
100. Mutiny on the Bounty
101. William Tell
103. Men Against the Sea
104. Bring 'Em Back Alive
105. From the Earth to the Moon
106. Buffalo Bill
107. King—of the Khyber Rifles
112. Kit Carson
116. The Bottle Imp
121. Wild Bill Hickok
122. The Mutineers
123. Fang and Claw
124. The War of the Worlds
125. The Ox-Bow Incident
126. The Downfall
127. The King of the Mountains
128. Macbeth
129. Davy Crockett
130. Caesar's Conquests
131. The Covered Wagon
132. The Dark Frigate
133. The Time Machine
134. Romeo and Juliet
135. Waterloo
136. Lord Jim
137. The Little Savage
138. A Journey to the Center of the Earth
139. In the Reign of Terror
140. On Jungle Trails
141. Castle Dangerous
142. Abraham Lincoln
143. Kim
144. First Men in the Moon
145. The Crisis
146. With Fire and Sword
147. Ben Hur
148. The Buccaneer
149. Off on a Comet
150. The Virginian
151. Won by the Sword
152. Wild Animals I Have Known
153. The Invisible Man
154. The Conspiracy of Pontiac
155. Lion of the North
156. Conquest of Mexico
157. Lives of the Hunted
158. The Conspirators

GILBERTON CO., INC. • DEPT. S. • 101 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

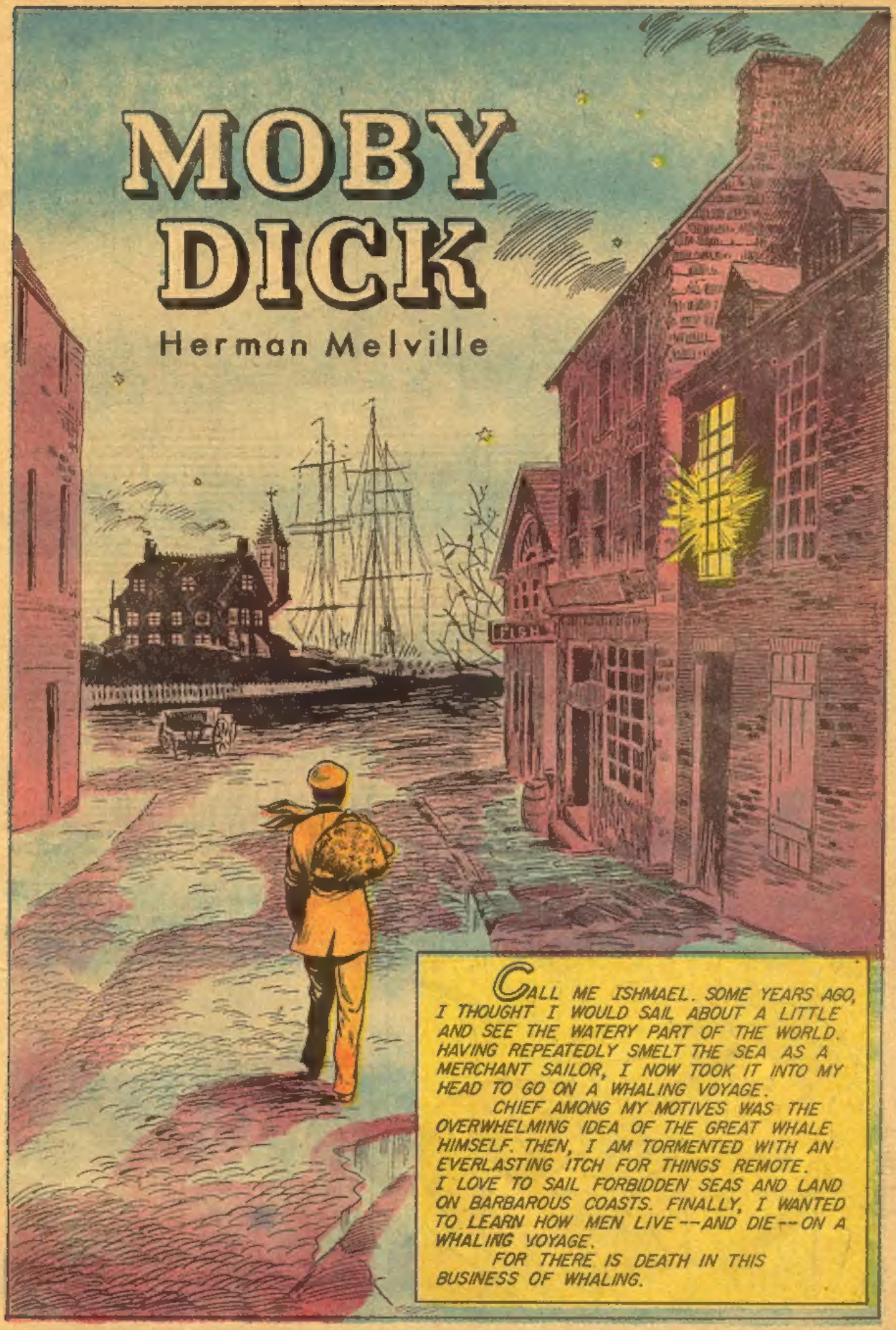
Herewith is $_____ for _____ issues of CLASSICS *Illustrated* as circled below:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31	32	34	36	37	39	41	42	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	54	55	57	58	
59	61	62	63	64	65	67	68	69	70	72	75	76	77	78	79	80	83	85	86	88		
89	90	91	96	97	98	99	100	101	103	104	105	106	107	112	116	121	122					
123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140					
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158					

Name _____ Age _____
(Please print)

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____


MOBY DICK
Herman Melville
CALL ME ISHMAEL. SOME YEARS AGO, I THOUGHT I WOULD SAIL ABOUT A LITTLE AND SEE THE WATERY PART OF THE WORLD. HAVING REPEATEDLY SMELT THE SEA AS A MERCHANT SAILOR, I NOW TOOK IT INTO MY HEAD TO GO ON A WHALING VOYAGE.
CHIEF AMONG MY MOTIVES WAS THE OVERWHELMING IDEA OF THE GREAT WHALE HIMSELF. THEN, I AM TORMENTED WITH AN EVERLASTING ITCH FOR THINGS REMOTE. I LOVE TO SAIL FORBIDDEN SEAS AND LAND ON BARBAROUS COASTS. FINALLY, I WANTED TO LEARN HOW MEN LIVE--AND DIE--ON A WHALING VOYAGE.
FOR THERE IS DEATH IN THIS BUSINESS OF WHALING.

I ARRIVED IN NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS, ON A SATURDAY NIGHT IN DECEMBER AND FOUND THAT THE PACKET FOR NANTUCKET WOULD NOT SAIL UNTIL MONDAY.

COFFIN. RATHER OMINOUS, THAT. BUT I MUST HAVE LODGING FOR THE NIGHT.

SPOUTER INN PETER COFFIN PROPRIETOR

I SOUGHT THE LANDLORD ONLY TO LEARN . . .

THERE'S NOT AN EMPTY BED IN THE PLACE. BUT YOU HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO SHARING ONE WITH A HARPOONER, HAVE YE?

RATHER THAN WANDER ABOUT ON SO BITTER A NIGHT, I'LL SHARE HALF OF ANY DECENT MAN'S BLANKET.

OH, HE'S DECENT ENOUGH. PAYS REGULAR, HE DOES.

ALE

WHERE IS HE NOW?

OUT TRYING TO SELL HIS HEAD. MUST BE HAVING A HARD TIME OF IT. IT'S BROKEN, YE KNOW.

ALE

NO CREDIT

WHAT'S BROKEN?

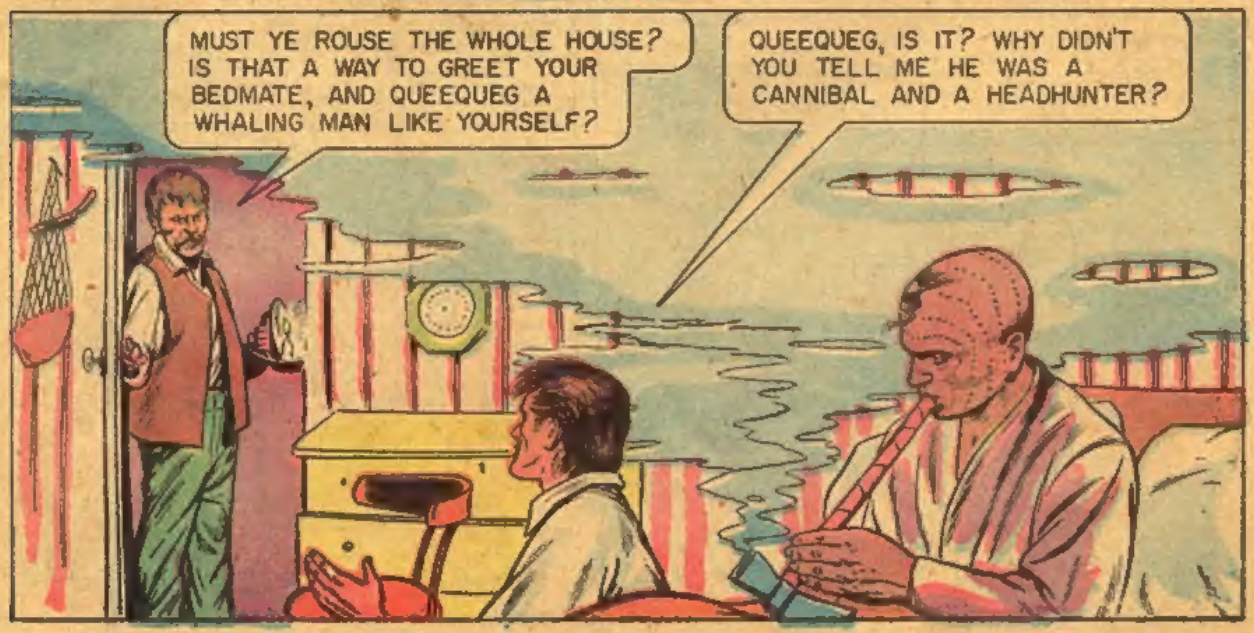
HIS HEAD, OF COURSE. BESIDES, THE MARKET'S OVERSTOCKED.

OVERSTOCKED? WITH WHAT?
WITH HEADS. AIN'T THERE TOO MANY HEADS IN THE WORLD?

LATER, I MOUNTED TO MY ROOM.
THE LANDLORD TAKES ME FOR A FOOL. NO MAN WOULD TRY TO SELL HIS OWN HEAD-- WHOLE OR BROKEN.

I TUMBLED INTO BED AND FELL ASLEEP. BUT WHEN NEXT I WOKE

THE NEXT MOMENT, HE HAD TAKEN OFF HIS CLOTHES, BLOWN OUT THE CANDLE AND PLUNGED INTO BED.
LANDLORD! HELP! ANGELS SAVE ME!


MUST YE ROUSE THE WHOLE HOUSE? IS THAT A WAY TO GREET YOUR BEDMATE, AND QUEEQUEG A WHALING MAN LIKE YOURSELF?
QUEEQUEG, IS IT? WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME HE WAS A CANNIBAL AND A HEADHUNTER?

WHEN THE LANDLORD LEFT . . .
YOU GET IN.

WHY MAKE THIS FUSS? HE'S A HUMAN BEING, JUST AS I AM.

I TURNED IN, AND NEVER SLEPT BETTER IN MY LIFE. THE NEXT MORNING . . .
HARPOON MAKE GOOD RAZOR.

WHEN QUEEQUEG HAD FINISHED . . .
WE BE SHIPMATES. SMOKE FRIENDSHIP SMOKE TOGETHER.

I TOOK A SOCIAL PUFF. THEN . . .
WE TOUCH HEADS. NOW WE BLOOD BROTHERS.

SO QUEEQUEG AND I BECAME BOSOM FRIENDS. ARM IN ARM, WE BOARDED THE PACKET FOR NANTUCKET ON MONDAY MORNING.

IN NANTUCKET, QUEEQUEG LEFT TO ME THE TASK OF FINDING US A WHALER.
THERE'S A NOBLE OLD CRAFT. BUT MELANCHOLY, TOO.
PEQUOD

I STEPPED ABOARD.
IS THIS THE CAPTAIN OF THE PEQUOD?
SUPPOSING IT BE? WHAT DOST THOU WANT OF HIM?

I WANT TO SHIP WITH YOU.
DOST THOU, NOW! AND WHY?

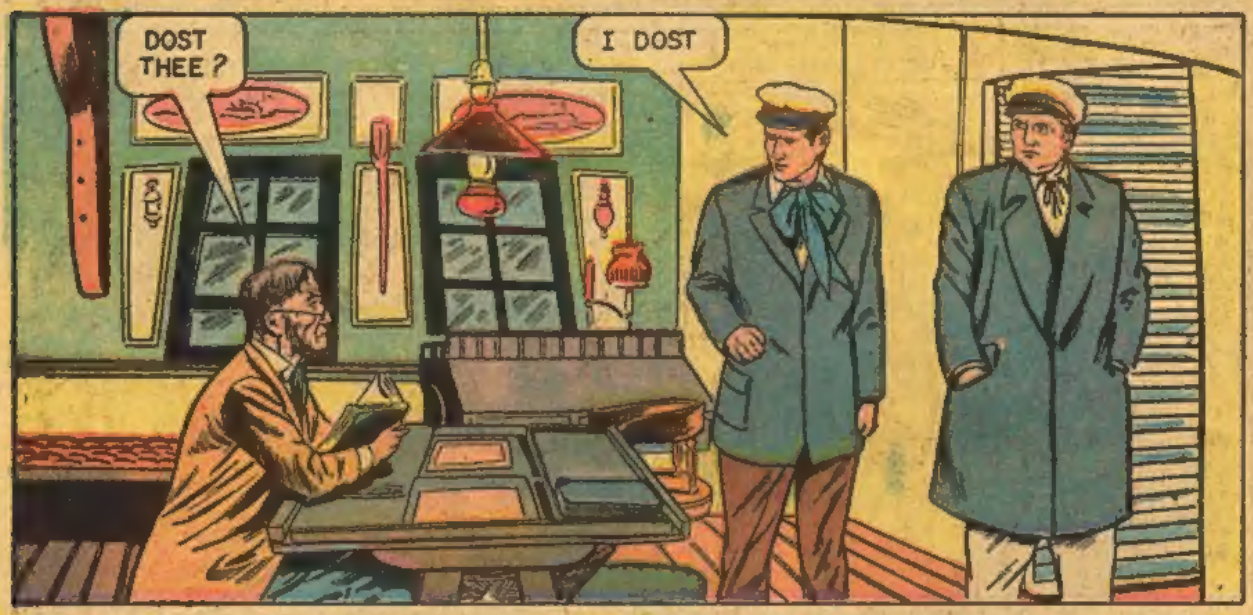
I WANT TO SEE WHAT WHALING IS, CAPTAIN.
I BE PELEG, PART OWNER OF THIS VESSEL, NOT ITS CAPTAIN. CLAP AN EYE ON ITS CAPTAIN, LAD, AND THOU SHALT SEE HE HAS BUT ONE LEG.

LOST BY A WHALE?
NOT LOST! --- DEVOURED, CHEWED UP, CRUNCHED BY THE MOST MONSTROUS WHALE THAT EVER CHIPPED A BOAT!

WANT TO SEE WHAT WHALING IS, LAD? THEN LOOK WELL ON CAPTAIN AHAB.

THOU MAYEST AS WELL SIGN THE PAPERS. COME BELOW AND MEET THEE BILDAD, MY PARTNER.

BILDAD, LIKE PELEG, WAS A NANTUCKET QUAKER, AND A RETIRED WHALING CAPTAIN.
STILL STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES, EH, BILDAD?--HERE BE A MAN WHO WANTS TO SHIP ON THE PEQUOD.


DOST THEE?
I DOST

HE'LL DO. BUT CONSIDER THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS WHO OWN SHARES IN THE PEQUOD. PAY HIM NOT OVERWELL.

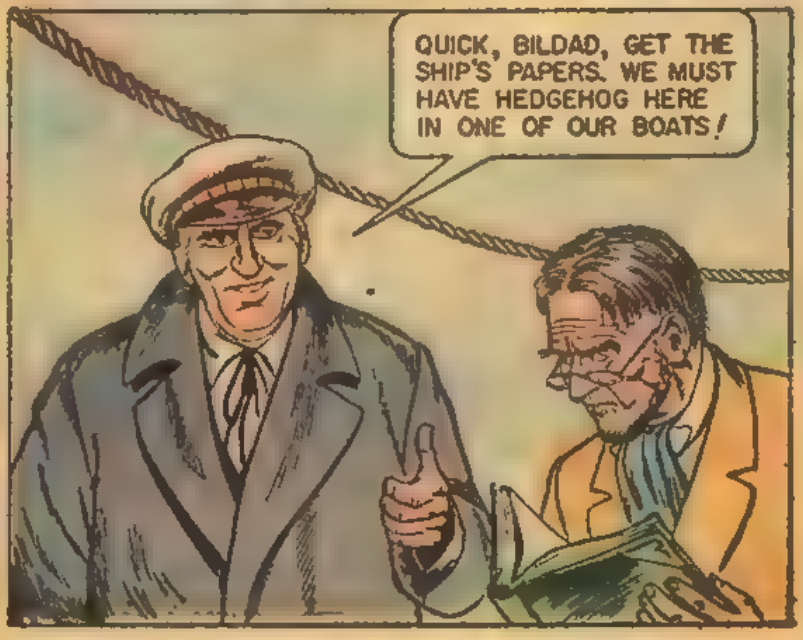
BLAST YE, BILDAD, HAD I FOLLOWED THEE IN SUCH MATTERS, MY CONSCIENCE AFORE NOW WOULD HAVE WEIGHED ME TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA!

THE NEXT MORNING, I TOOK QUEEQUEG ABOARD THE PEQUOD.
WHAT A HARPOON HE'S GOT THERE! I SAY, QUOHOG, OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS, DID YOU EVER STRIKE A FISH?

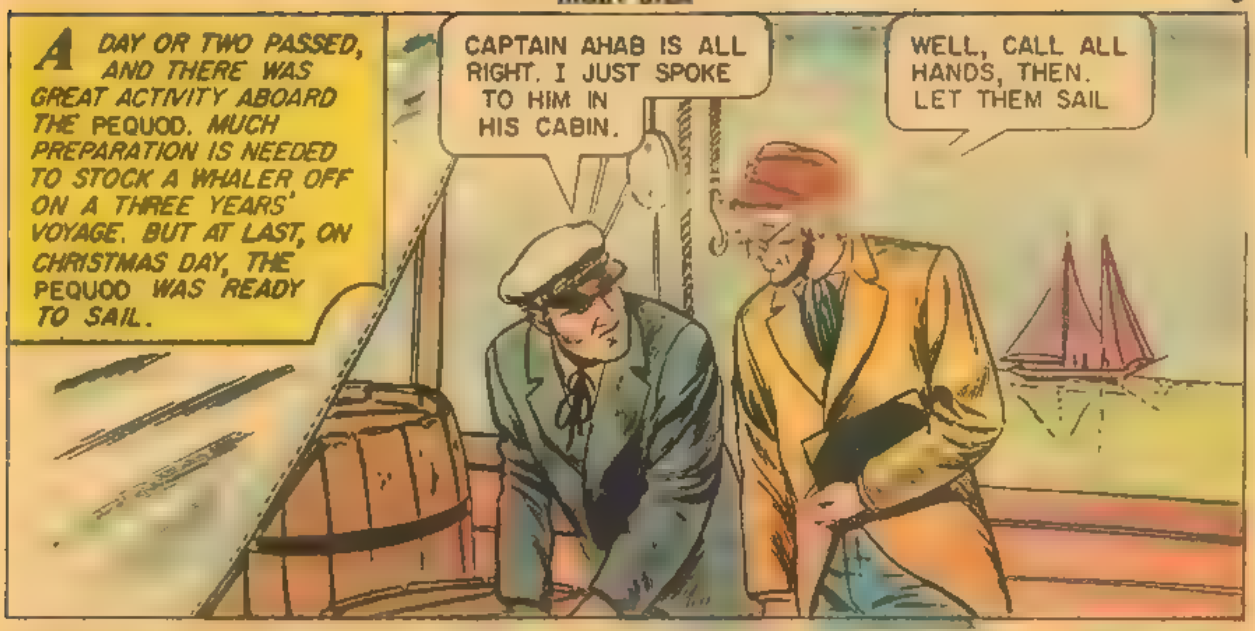
YOU SEE SMALL DROP TAR ON THERE? SUPPOSE HIM WHALE.

HE TOOK SHARP AIM AND

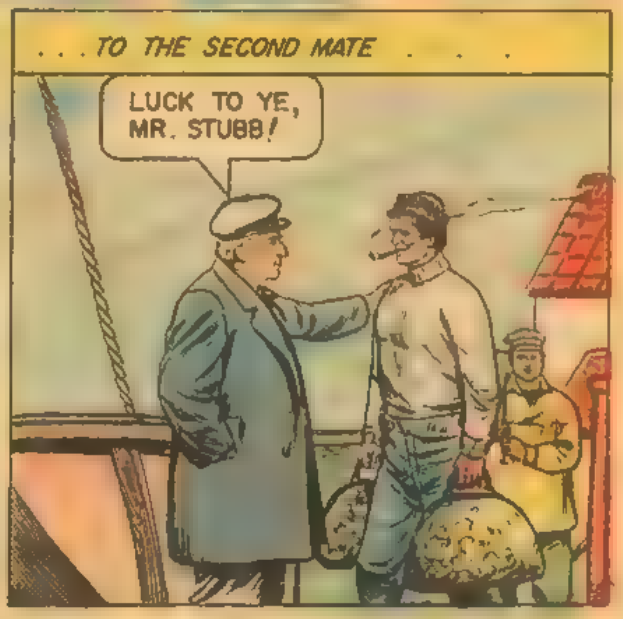
HE STRUCK THE TAR SPOT OUT OF SIGHT


QUICK, BILDAD, GET THE SHIP'S PAPERS. WE MUST HAVE HEDGEHOG HERE IN ONE OF OUR BOATS!

QUEEQUEG HAVING SIGNED ON, WE LEFT THE PEQUOD. THEN . .
SHIPMATES, HAVE YE SHIPPED IN THAT SHIP?
YES, WE HAVE JUST SIGNED THE PAPERS.
ANYTHING DOWN THERE ABOUT YOUR SOULS? OR HAVE YE NONE TO LOSE?
LET'S GO. THIS FELLOW HAS BROKEN LOOSE FROM SOMEWHERE.
YE HAVEN'T SEEN CAPTAIN AHAB, HAVE YE? THEY SAY HE HAS A SICKNESS.
IF SO, MY FRIEND, HE'LL BE WELL AGAIN BEFORE WE SAIL.
WELL AGAIN? AHAB WELL AGAIN? THAT DAY SHALL THIS ARM BE WELL AGAIN — NOT BEFORE! YE'VE SIGNED, HAVE YE? THEN GOD PITY YE — AND ALL WHO BOARD THAT CURSED SHIP.

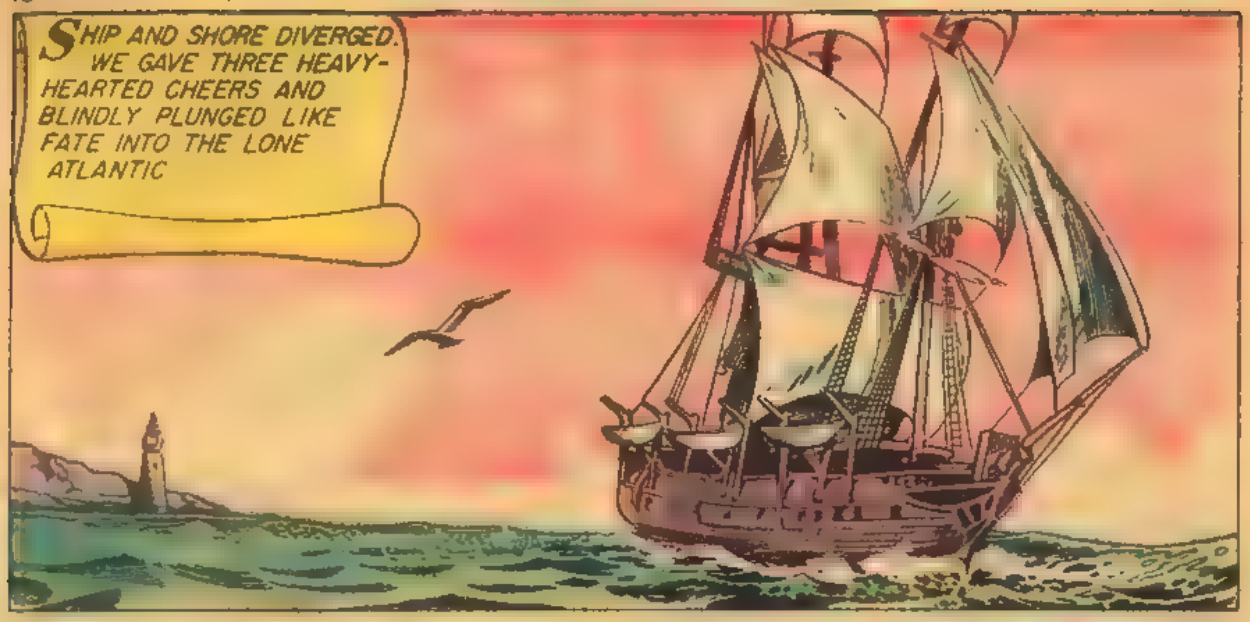

A DAY OR TWO PASSED, AND THERE WAS GREAT ACTIVITY ABOARD THE PEQUOD. MUCH PREPARATION IS NEEDED TO STOCK A WHALER OFF ON A THREE YEARS' VOYAGE. BUT AT LAST, ON CHRISTMAS DAY, THE PEQUOD WAS READY TO SAIL.
CAPTAIN AHAB IS ALL RIGHT. I JUST SPOKE TO HIM IN HIS CABIN.
WELL, CALL ALL HANDS, THEN. LET THEM SAIL

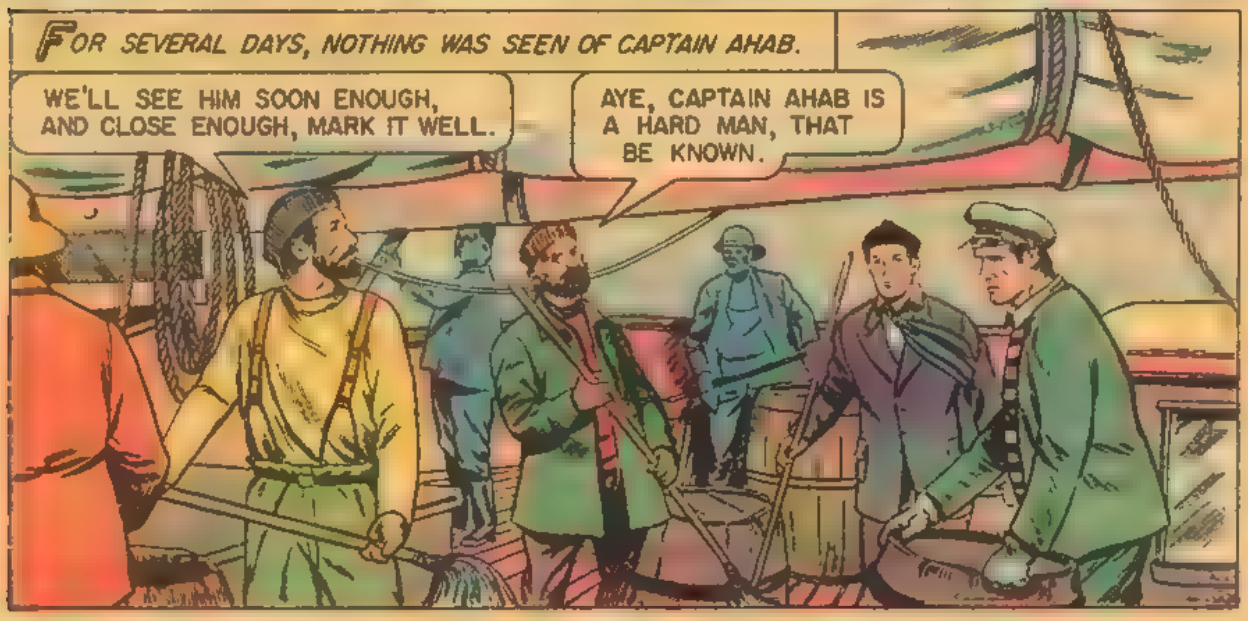
PELEG AND BILDAD SAID FAREWELL TO THE CHIEF MATE . . .
LUCK TO YE, MR. STARBUCK!

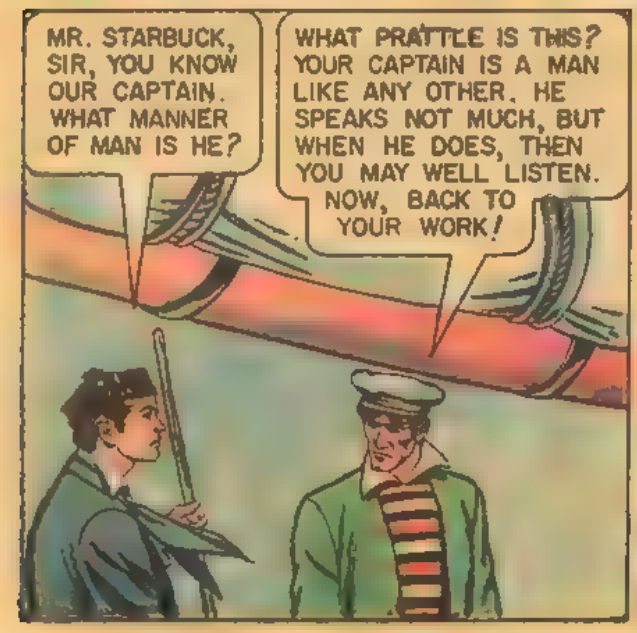

. . . TO THE SECOND MATE . . .
LUCK TO YE, MR. STUBB!

. . . TO THE THIRD MATE . . .
LUCK TO YE, MR. FLASK.

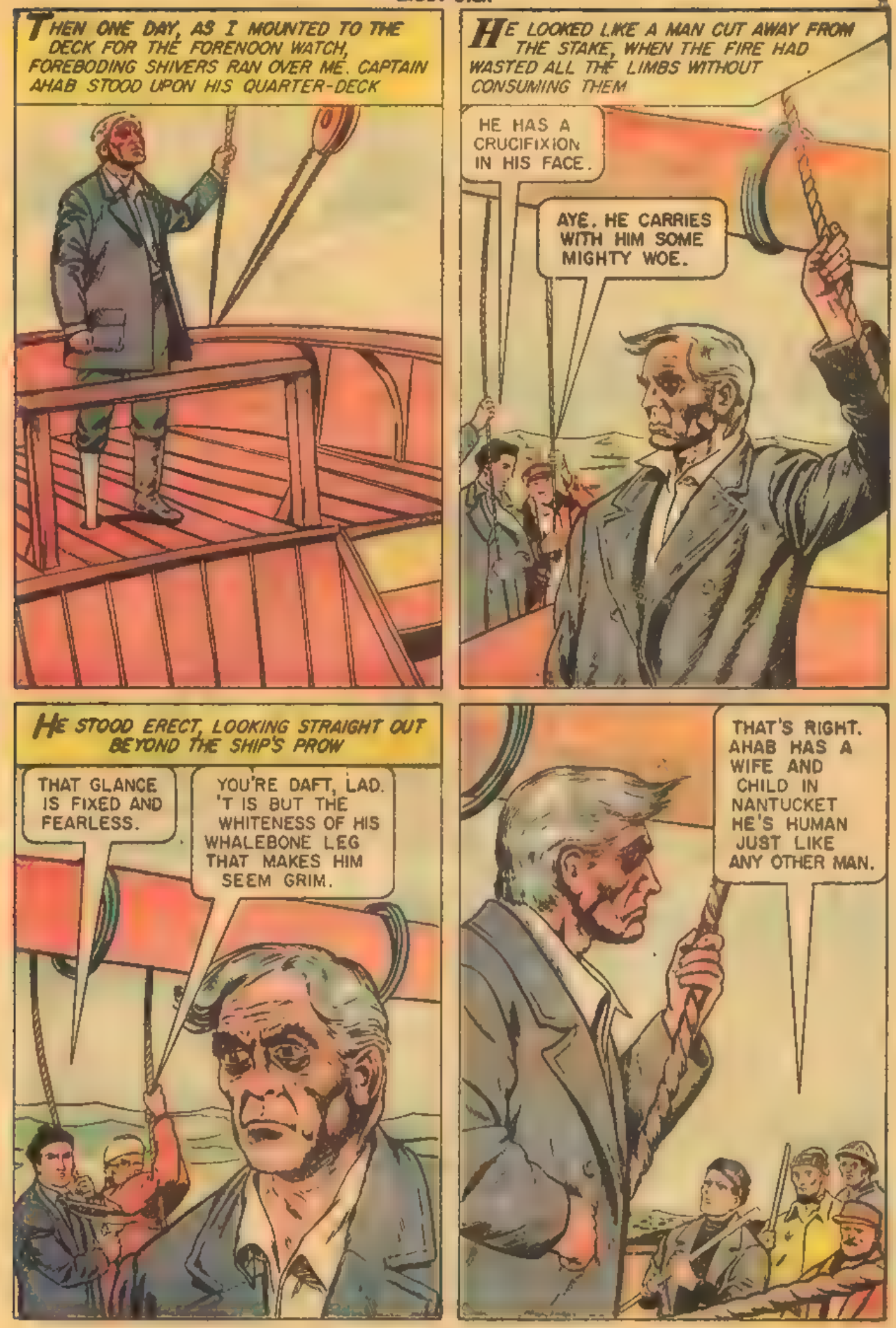
. . . AND TO THE CREW .
GOD BLESS YE, AND HAVE YE IN HIS HOLY KEEPING, MEN!

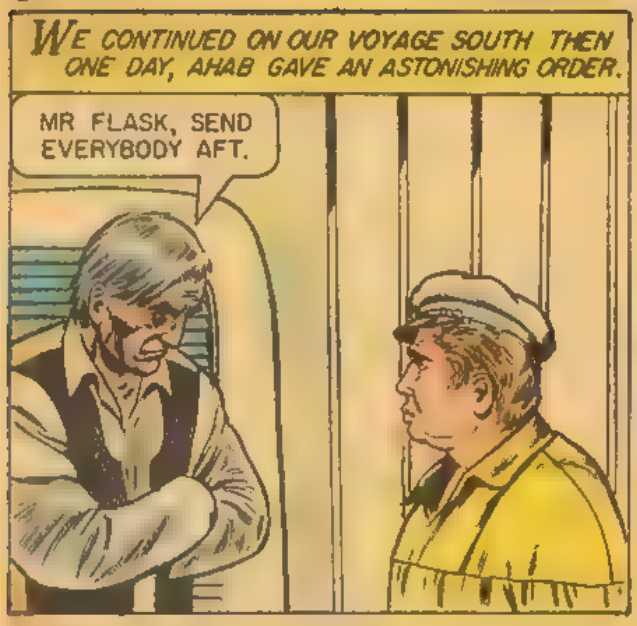

SHIP AND SHORE DIVERGED. WE GAVE THREE HEAVY-HEARTED CHEERS AND BLINDLY PLUNGED LIKE FATE INTO THE LONE ATLANTIC


FOR SEVERAL DAYS, NOTHING WAS SEEN OF CAPTAIN AHAB.
WE'LL SEE HIM SOON ENOUGH, AND CLOSE ENOUGH, MARK IT WELL.
AYE, CAPTAIN AHAB IS A HARD MAN, THAT BE KNOWN.

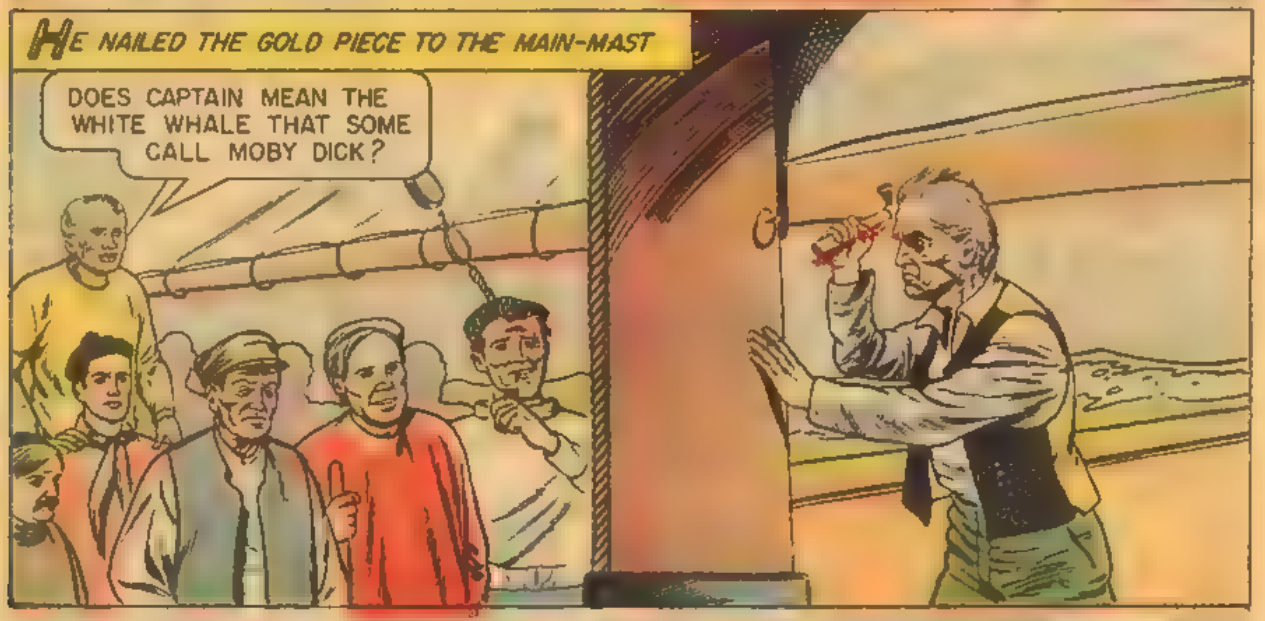

MR. STARBUCK, SIR, YOU KNOW OUR CAPTAIN. WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS HE?
WHAT PRATTLE IS THIS? YOUR CAPTAIN IS A MAN LIKE ANY OTHER. HE SPEAKS NOT MUCH, BUT WHEN HE DOES, THEN YOU MAY WELL LISTEN. NOW, BACK TO YOUR WORK!

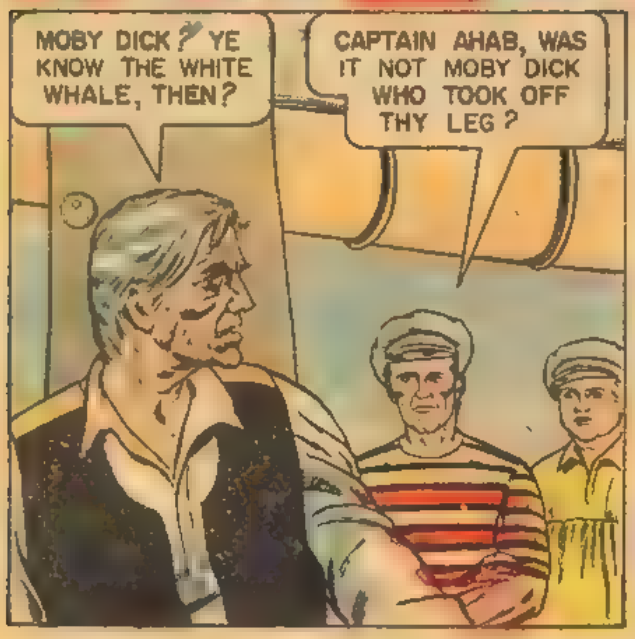
BUT AS OUR CHIEF MATE TURNED AWAY, I HEARD HIM MUTTER
A MAN LIKE ANY OTHER? NAY. WHATEVER ELSE AHAB BE, HE IS ABOVE THE COMMON--A GRAND, UNGODLY, GOD-LIKE MAN.

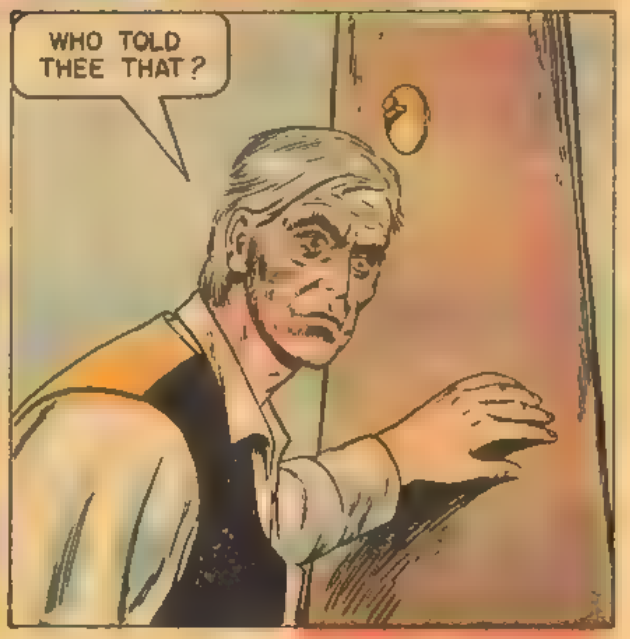

THEN ONE DAY, AS I MOUNTED TO THE DECK FOR THE FORENOON WATCH, FOREBODING SHIVERS RAN OVER ME. CAPTAIN AHAB STOOD UPON HIS QUARTER-DECK
HE LOOKED LIKE A MAN CUT AWAY FROM THE STAKE, WHEN THE FIRE HAD WASTED ALL THE LIMBS WITHOUT CONSUMING THEM
HE HAS A CRUCIFIXION IN HIS FACE.
AYE. HE CARRIES WITH HIM SOME MIGHTY WOE.
HE STOOD ERECT, LOOKING STRAIGHT OUT BEYOND THE SHIP'S PROW
THAT GLANCE IS FIXED AND FEARLESS.
YOU'RE DAFT, LAD. 'T IS BUT THE WHITENESS OF HIS WHALEBONE LEG THAT MAKES HIM SEEM GRIM.
THAT'S RIGHT. AHAB HAS A WIFE AND CHILD IN NANTUCKET HE'S HUMAN JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MAN.

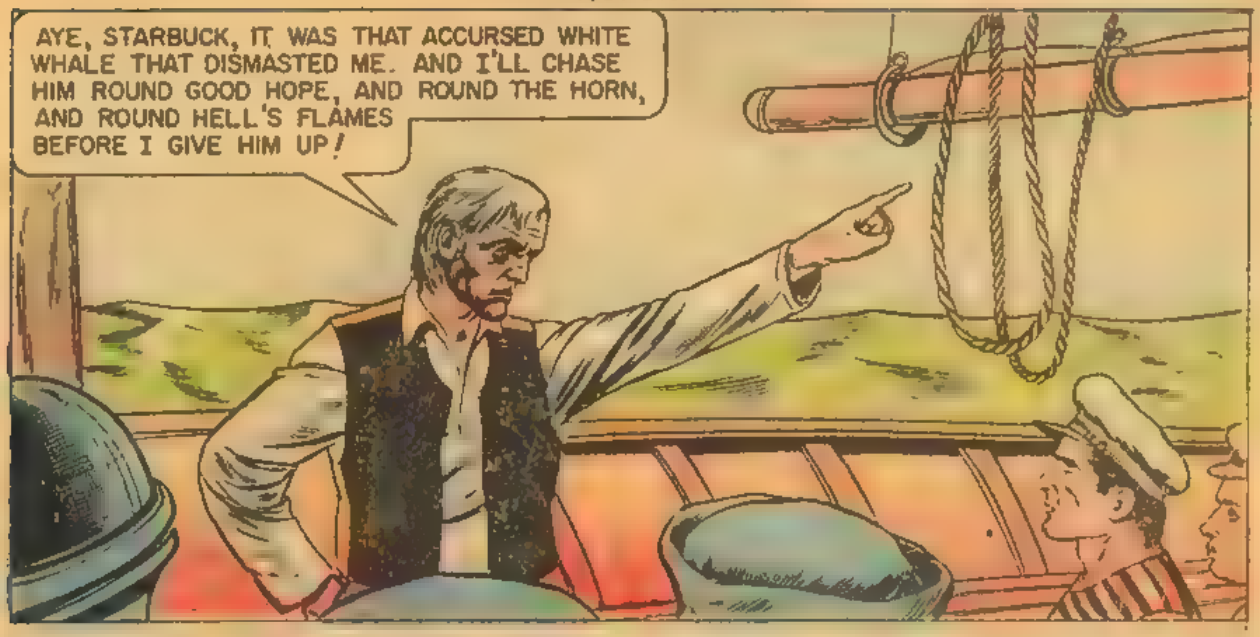

WE CONTINUED ON OUR VOYAGE SOUTH THEN ONE DAY, AHAB GAVE AN ASTONISHING ORDER.
MR FLASK, SEND EVERYBODY AFT.

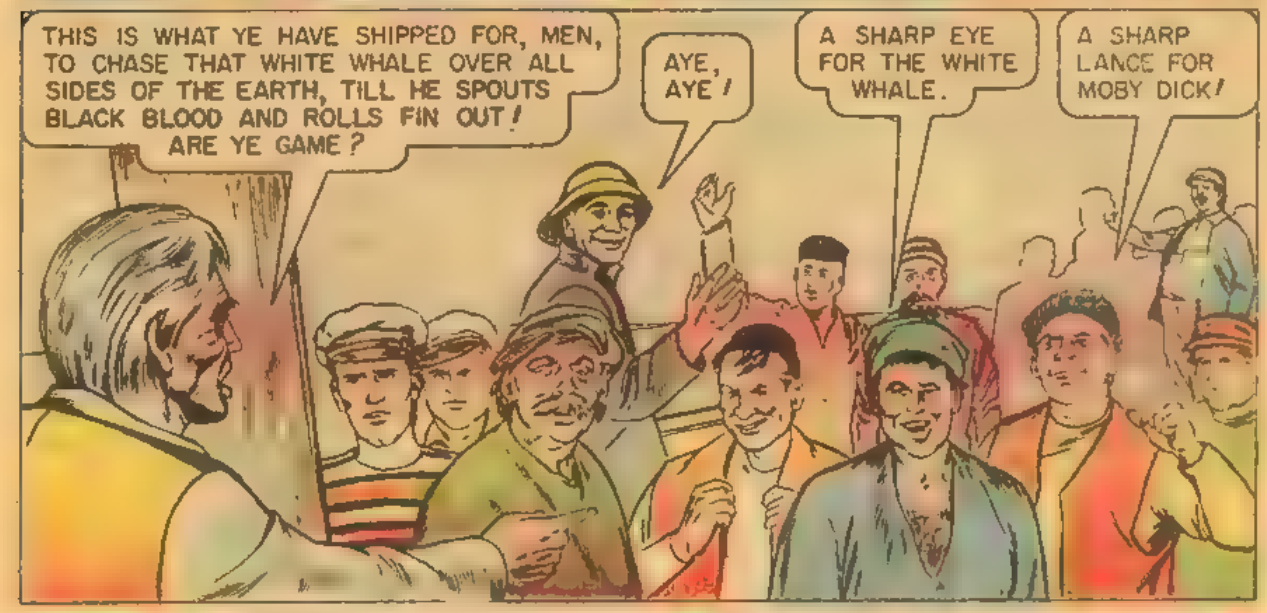
WHEN ALL THE MEN WERE ASSEMBLED
SEE YE THIS PIECE OF GOLD? WHOSOEVER OF YE FIRST SPIES A MONSTROUS WHITE WHALE WITH A WRINKLED BROW AND A CROOKED JAW--WHOSOEVER RAISES THAT WHITE WHALE SHALL HAVE THIS GOLD!


HE NAILED THE GOLD PIECE TO THE MAIN-MAST
DOES CAPTAIN MEAN THE WHITE WHALE THAT SOME CALL MOBY DICK?

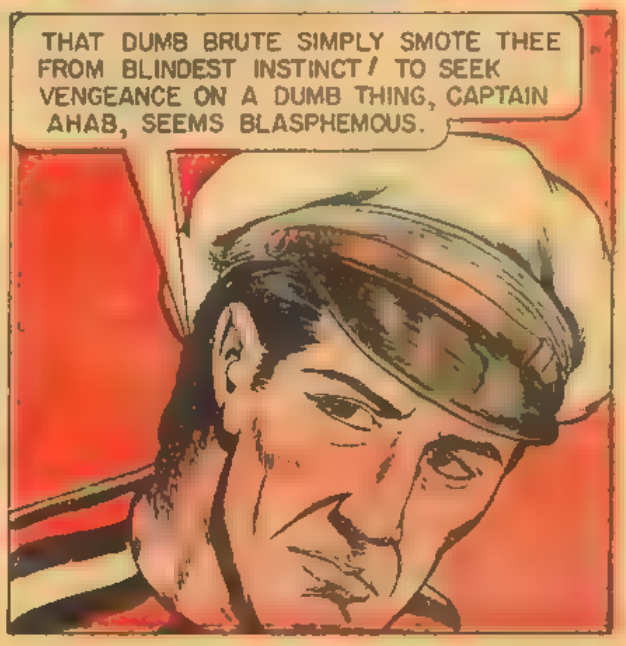

MOBY DICK? YE KNOW THE WHITE WHALE, THEN?
CAPTAIN AHAB, WAS IT NOT MOBY DICK WHO TOOK OFF THY LEG?


WHO TOLD THEE THAT?

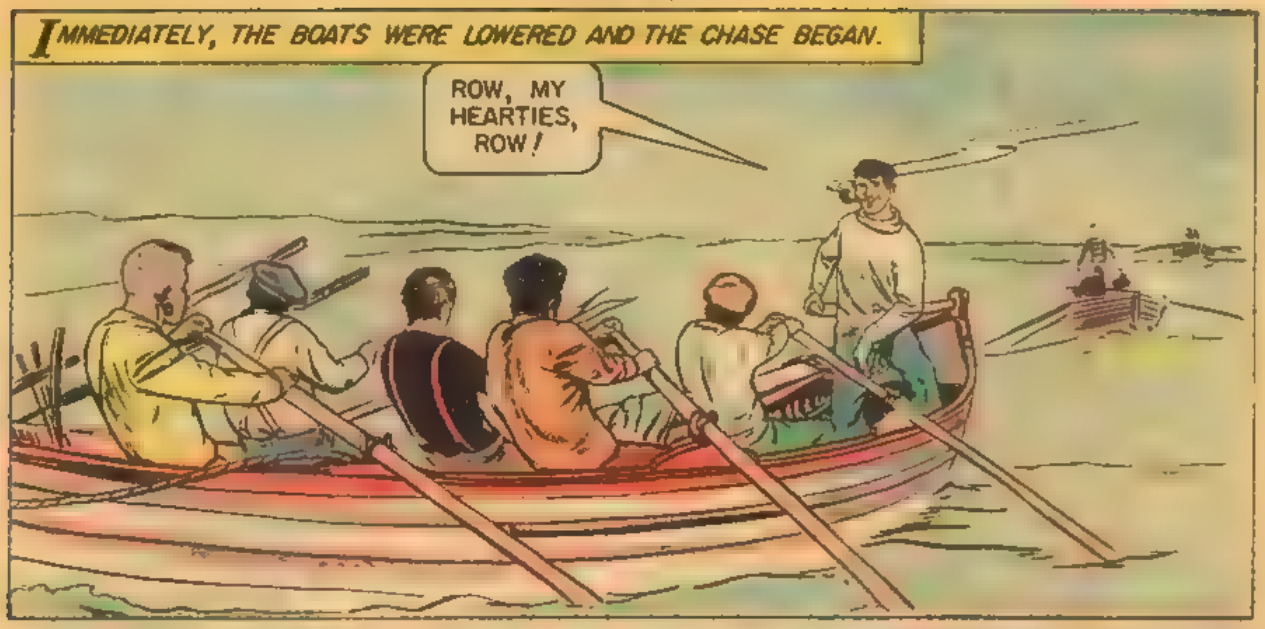

AYE, STARBUCK, IT WAS THAT ACCURSED WHITE WHALE THAT DISMASTED ME. AND I'LL CHASE HIM ROUND GOOD HOPE, AND ROUND THE HORN, AND ROUND HELL'S FLAMES BEFORE I GIVE HIM UP!

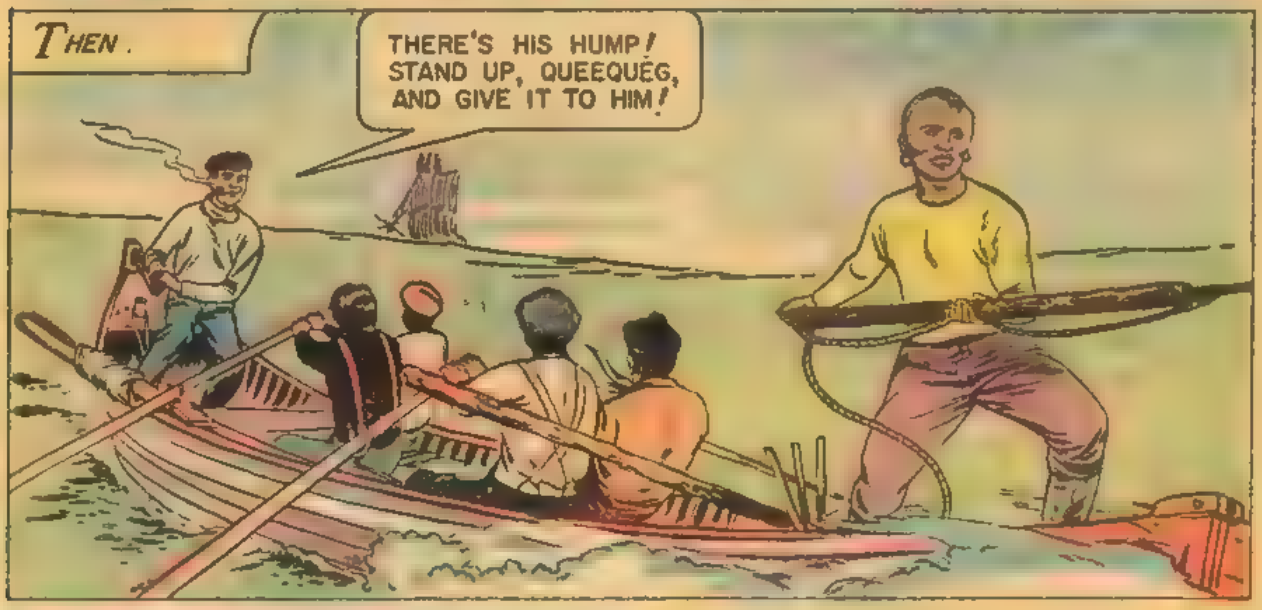

THIS IS WHAT YE HAVE SHIPPED FOR, MEN, TO CHASE THAT WHITE WHALE OVER ALL SIDES OF THE EARTH, TILL HE SPOUTS BLACK BLOOD AND ROLLS FIN OUT! ARE YE GAME?
AYE, AYE!
A SHARP EYE FOR THE WHITE WHALE.
A SHARP LANCE FOR MOBY DICK!

I AM GAME FOR THE JAWS OF DEATH, CAPTAIN, BUT I CAME HERE TO HUNT WHALES, NOT MY CAPTAIN'S VENGEANCE.
HOW MANY BARRELS OF OIL WILL THY VENGEANCE YIELD THEE ON THE NANTUCKET MARKET?


THAT DUMB BRUTE SIMPLY SMOTE THEE FROM BLINDEST INSTINCT! TO SEEK VENGEANCE ON A DUMB THING, CAPTAIN AHAB, SEEMS BLASPHEMOUS.

DAYS, WEEKS PASSED. THERE WAS NO SIGN OF MOBY DICK, THOUGH EACH MAN KEPT THAT WHITE MONSTER WELL IN MIND. BUT WE WERE WHALING MEN, AND THERE WERE OTHER WHALES. ONE DAY

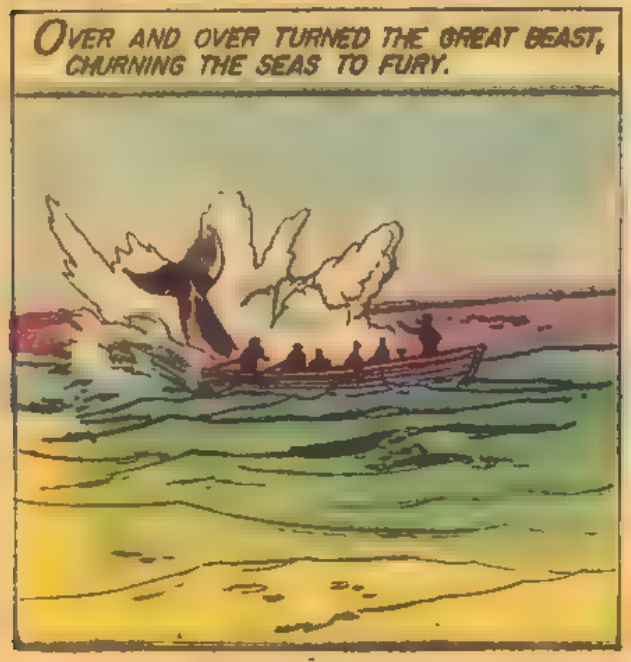

IMMEDIATELY, THE BOATS WERE LOWERED AND THE CHASE BEGAN.
ROW, MY HEARTIES, ROW!


THEN.
THERE'S HIS HUMP! STAND UP, QUEEQUEG, AND GIVE IT TO HIM!

NOW OUR LITTLE BOAT CHURNED WILDLY THROUGH THE WATER, HELD FAST TO THE WHALE BY THE HARPOON LINE

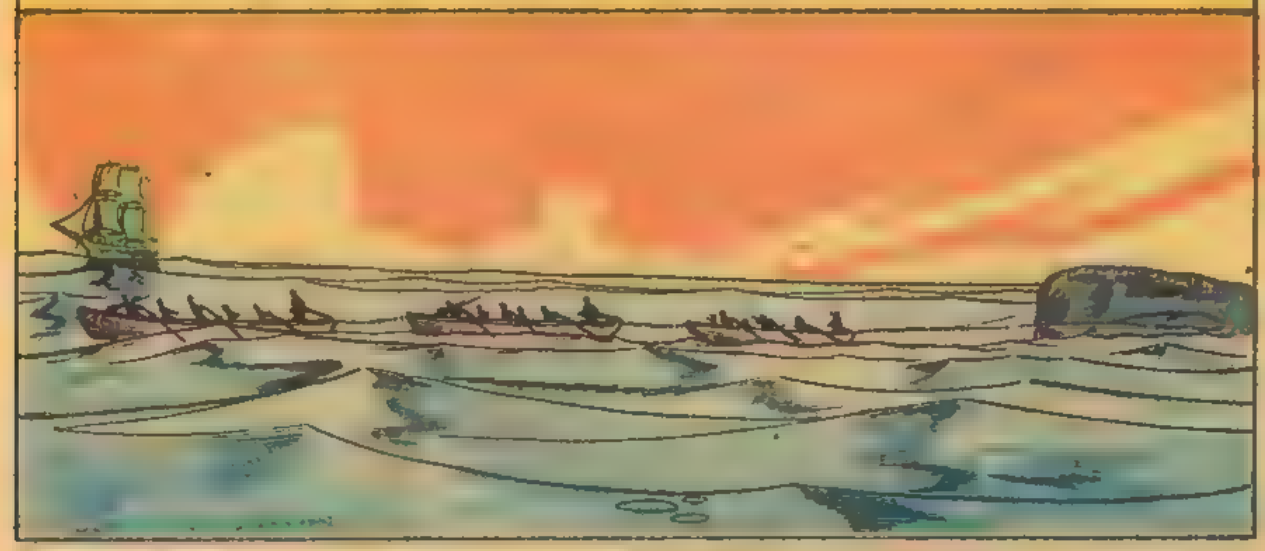
STUBB AND QUEEQUEG QUICKLY CHANGED PLACES, WITH QUEEQUEG NOW STEERING AND STUBB PREPARING FOR THE KILL.

THEN STUBB THRUST HIS LONG SHARP LANCE INTO THE WHALE.

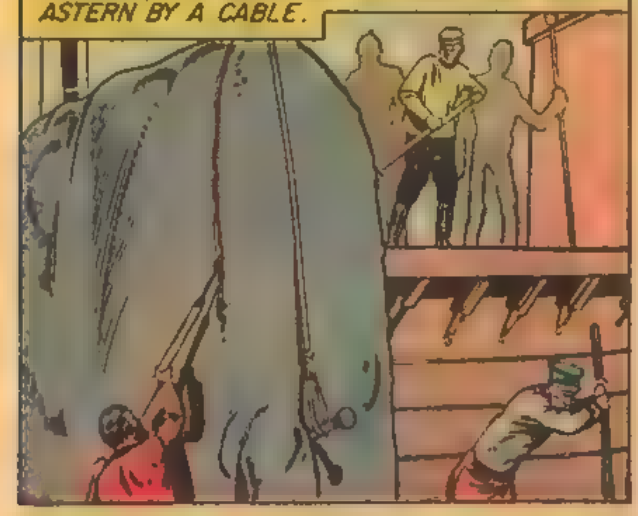

OVER AND OVER TURNED THE GREAT BEAST, CHURNING THE SEAS TO FURY.

AT LAST...
HE DEAD, MR. STUBB
HIS PIPE AND MINE-- BOTH SMOKED OUT.

THE MONSTER, A SPERM WHALE, WAS KILLED SOME DISTANCE FROM THE SHIP. THE THREE BOATS BEGAN THE SLOW BUSINESS OF TOWING THE TROPHY TO THE PEQUOD.



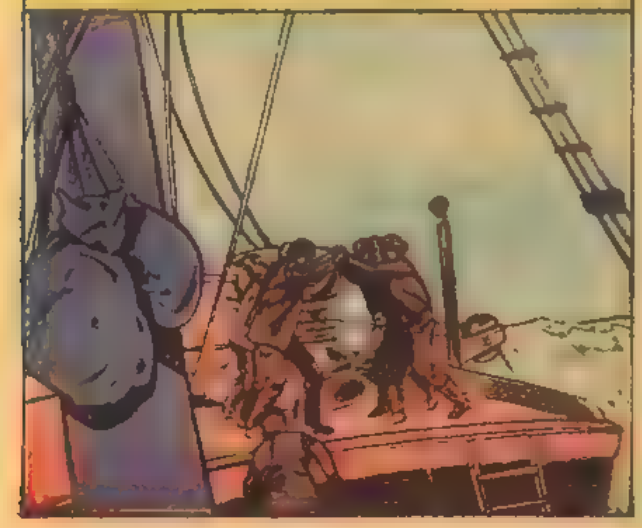
THE WHALE WAS LASHED TO THE PEQUOD'S SIDE. BEFORE STRIPPING IT OF ITS BLUBBER, ITS HEAD WAS SEVERED AND HELD ASTERN BY A CABLE.



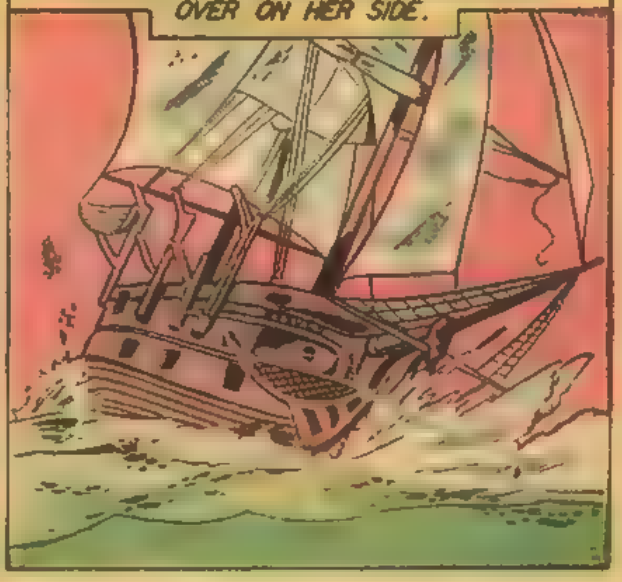
THEN . . .

LET THERE BE NO DELAY IN STRIPPING THE BEAST. THESE SHARKS WILL SOON LEAVE US NOTHING BUT A SKELETON.

A HOOK WAS INSERTED IN THE WHALE'S BODY. THEN THE CREW BEGAN TO HEAVE AT THE WINDLASS.



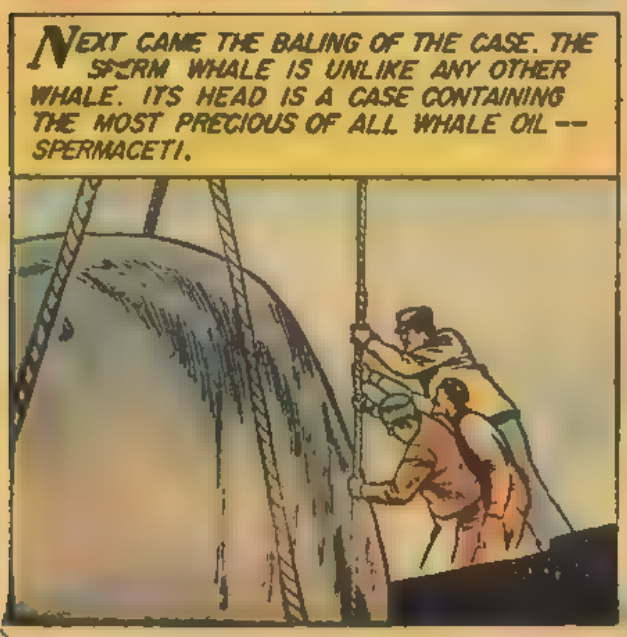
INSTANTLY, THE ENTIRE SHIP CAREENED OVER ON HER SIDE.

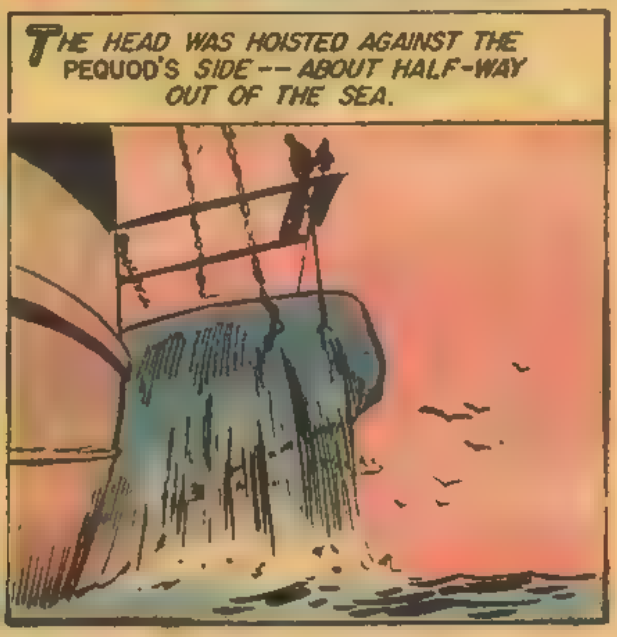


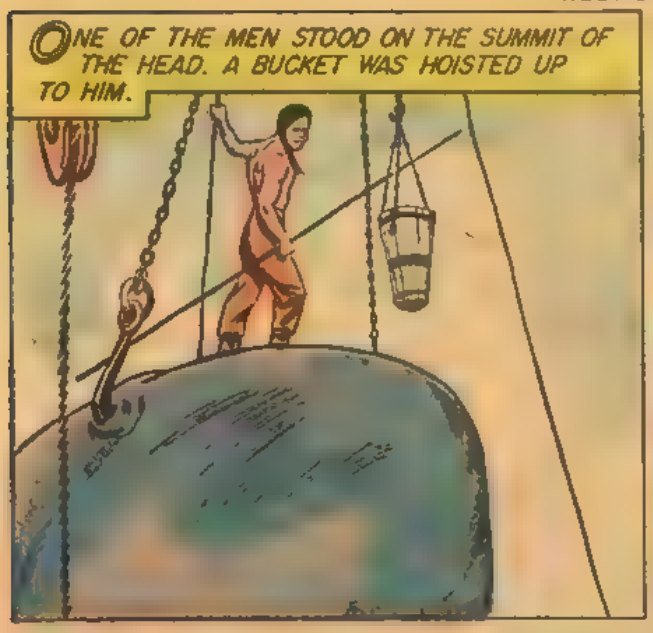
AT LAST, A SWIFT SNAP WAS HEARD. THE SHIP ROLLED UPRIGHT, AND THE TACKLE BEGAN STRIPPING OFF THE BLUBBER.

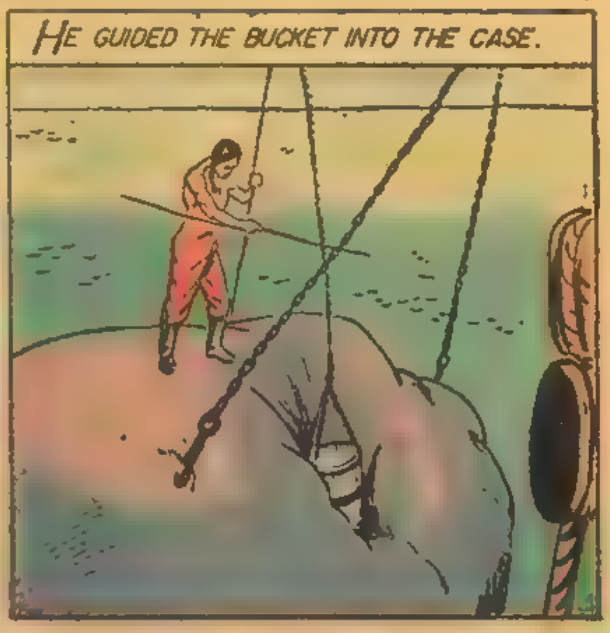
THEN . . .
HAUL IN THE CHAINS! LET THE CARCASE GO ASTERN.

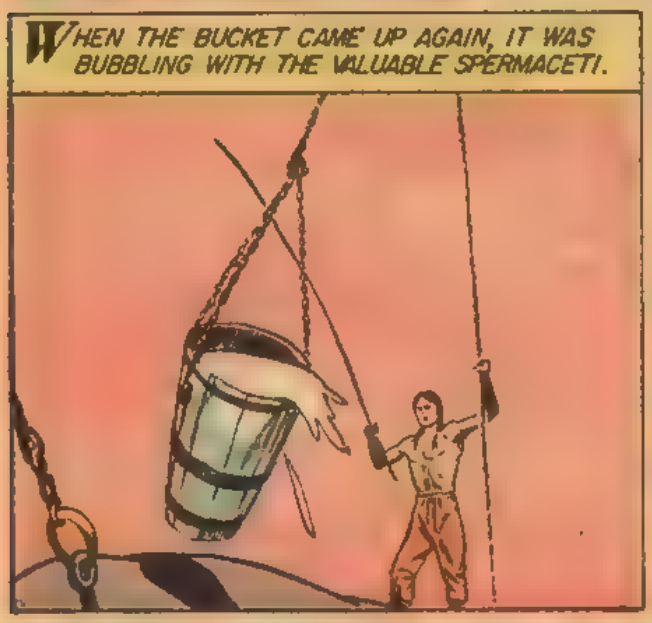
THE PEELED WHITE BODY OF THE WHALE WAS SET ADRIFT.
FIRST PREY TO MAN, THEN PREY TO SEA-VULTURES AND SHARKS.


NEXT CAME THE BALING OF THE CASE. THE SPERM WHALE IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER WHALE. ITS HEAD IS A CASE CONTAINING THE MOST PRECIOUS OF ALL WHALE OIL -- SPERMACETI.


THE HEAD WAS HOISTED AGAINST THE PEQUOD'S SIDE -- ABOUT HALF-WAY OUT OF THE SEA.

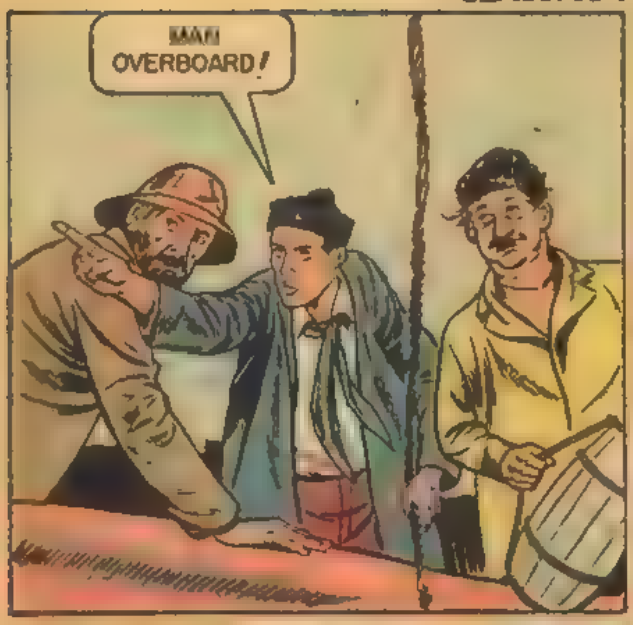

ONE OF THE MEN STOOD ON THE SUMMIT OF THE HEAD. A BUCKET WAS HOISTED UP TO HIM.

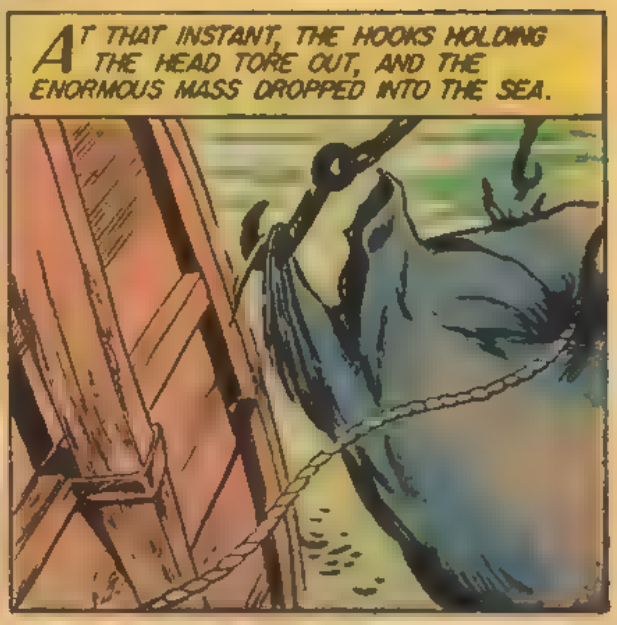

HE GUIDED THE BUCKET INTO THE CASE.

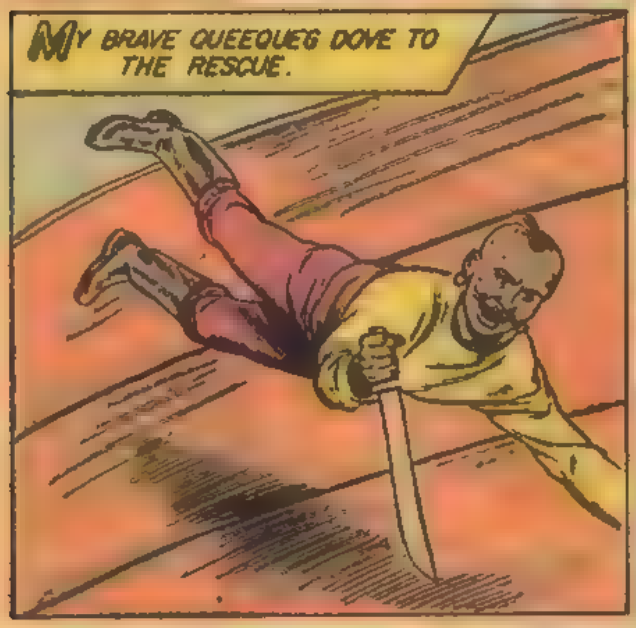

WHEN THE BUCKET CAME UP AGAIN, IT WAS BUBBLING WITH THE VALUABLE SPERMACETI.

THIS WAS EMPTIED INTO A LARGE TUB.

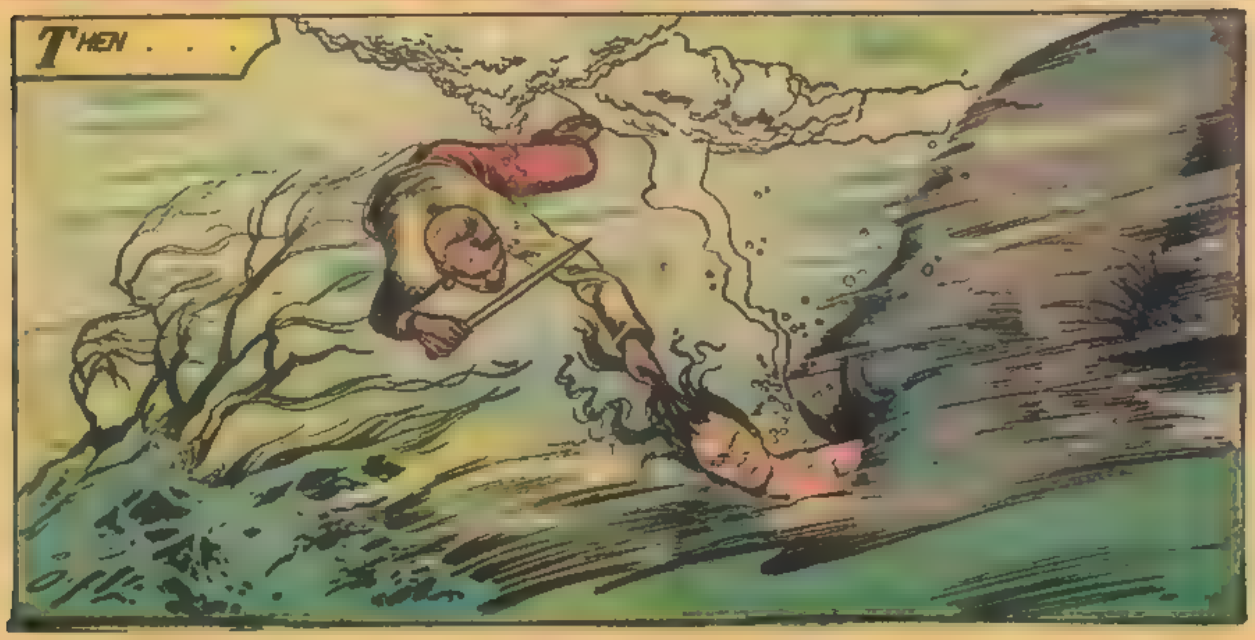
SUDDENLY...

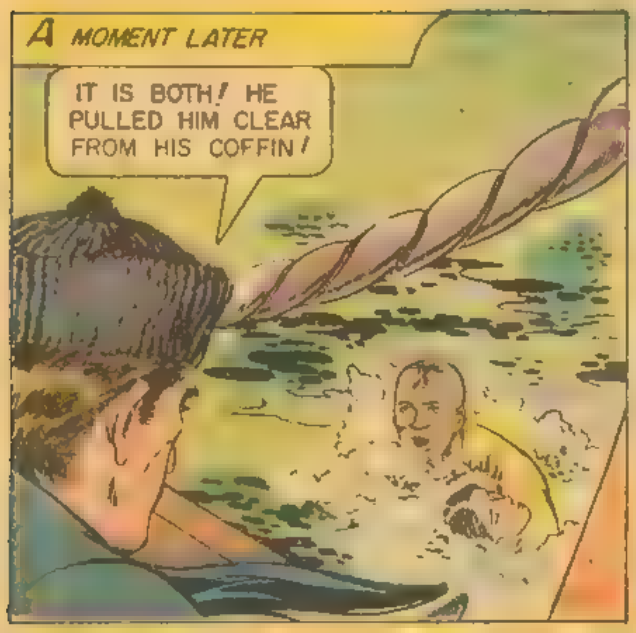

MAN OVERBOARD!


AT THAT INSTANT, THE HOOKS HOLDING THE HEAD TORE OUT, AND THE ENORMOUS MASS DROPPED INTO THE SEA.


MY BRAVE QUEEQUEG DOVE TO THE RESCUE.

DIVING AFTER THE SLOWLY DESCENDING HEAD, QUEEQUEG MADE A HOLE NEAR ITS BOTTOM.

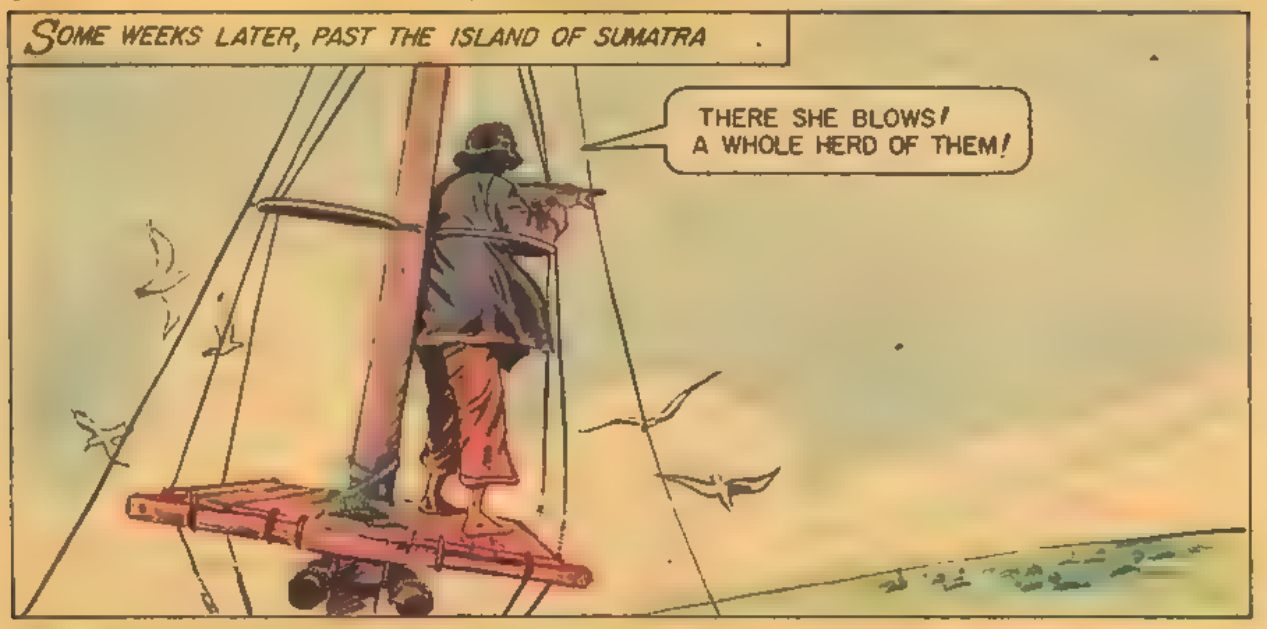

THEN . . .

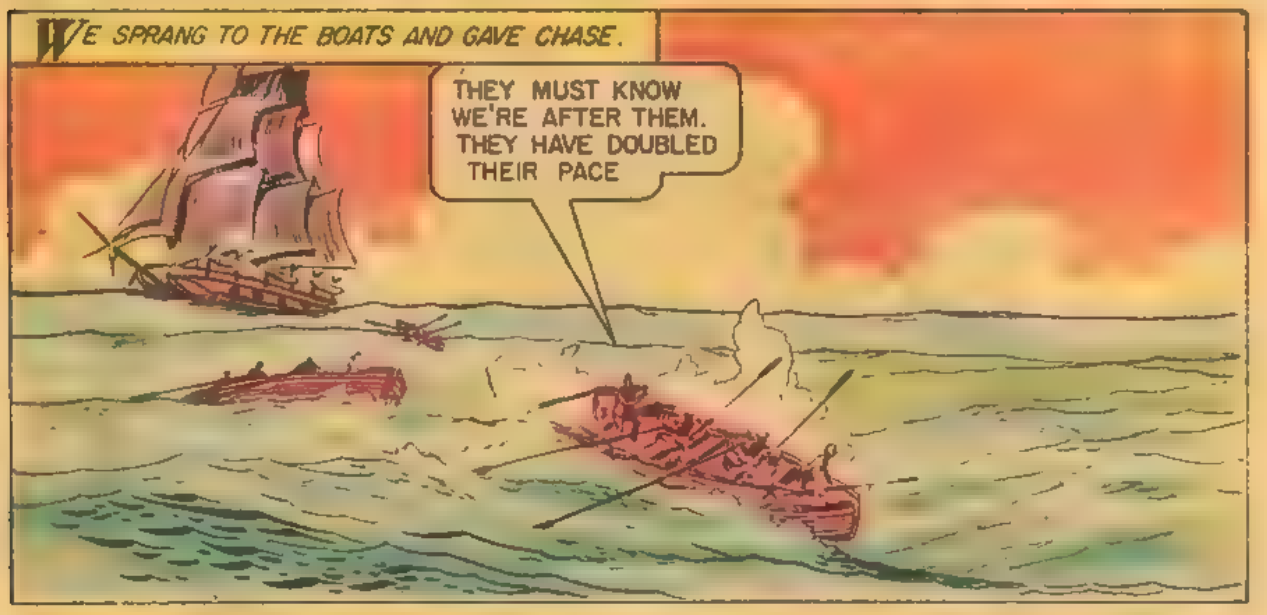

A MOMENT LATER
IT IS BOTH! HE PULLED HIM CLEAR FROM HIS COFFIN!

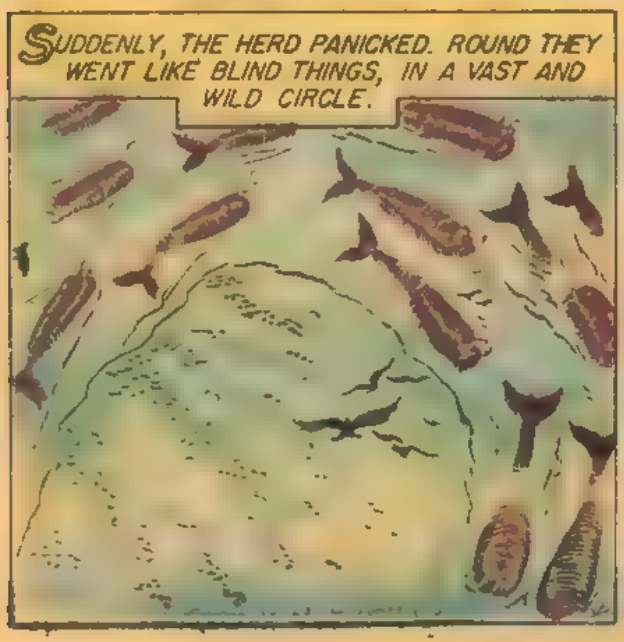
AYE. WOULD THAT WE ALL COULD AS EASILY BE PULLED FROM OURS

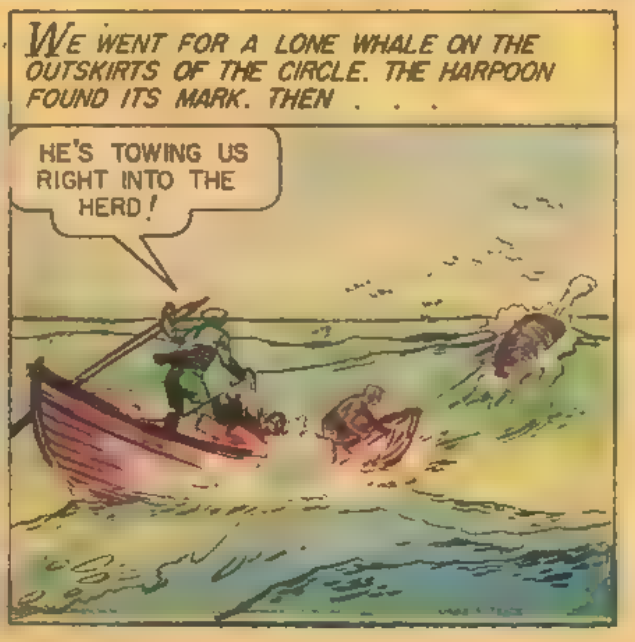
THAT NIGHT, THE TRY POTS WERE LIGHTED. THEY BURNED THE BLUBBER OF THE WHALE UNTIL IT HAD YIELDED ITS LAST DROP OF OIL

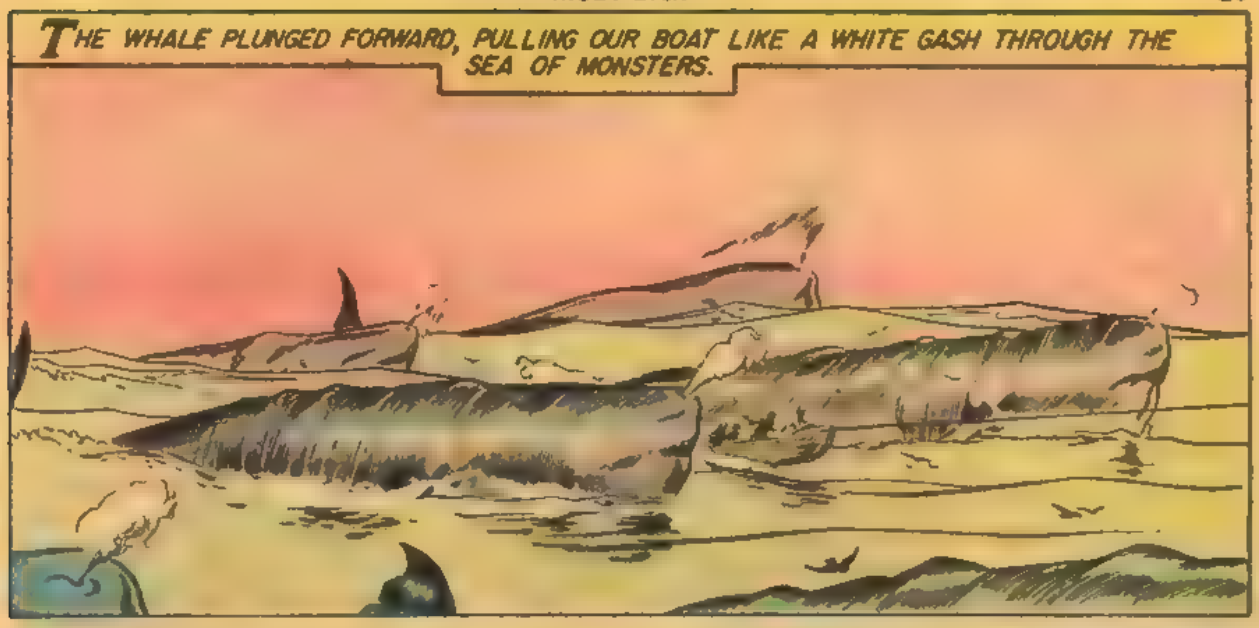
AND THE PEQUOD, LADEN WITH FIRE AND BURNING A CORPSE, PLUNGED THROUGH THE DARKNESS

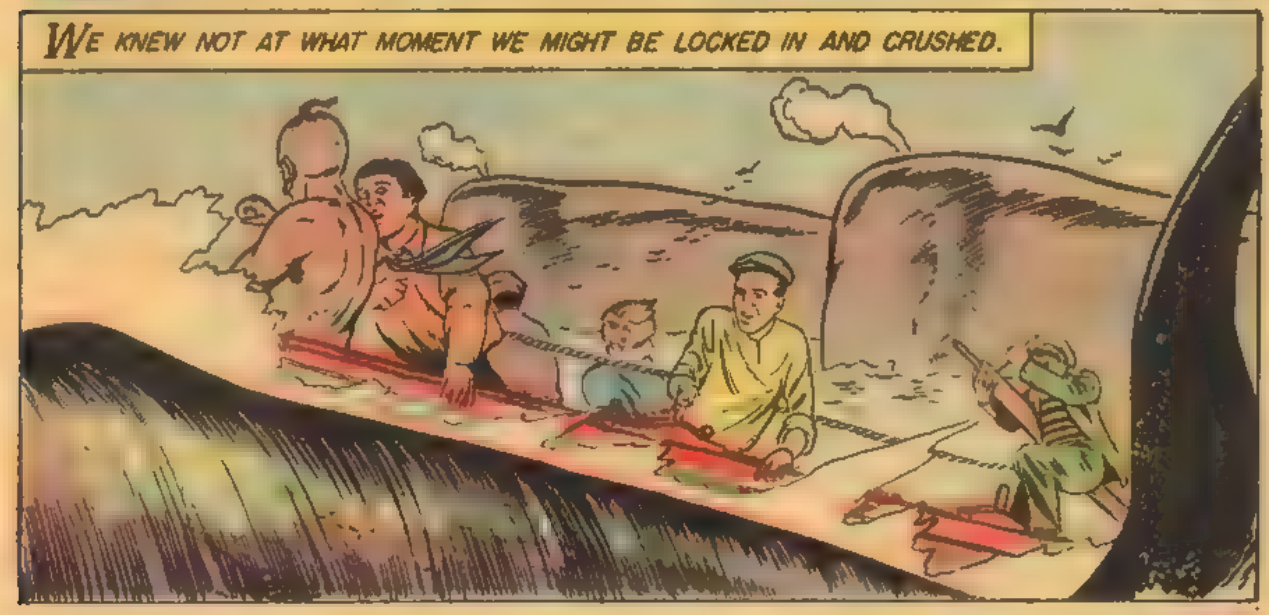

SOME WEEKS LATER, PAST THE ISLAND OF SUMATRA .
THERE SHE BLOWS! A WHOLE HERD OF THEM!

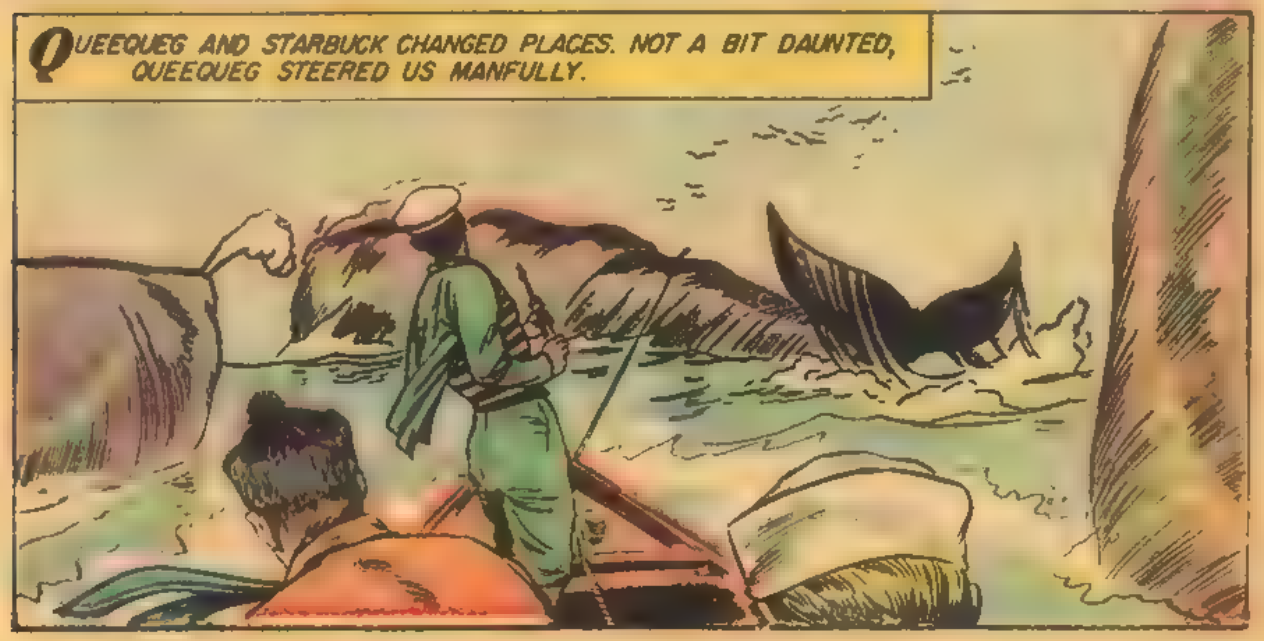

WE SPRANG TO THE BOATS AND GAVE CHASE.
THEY MUST KNOW WE'RE AFTER THEM. THEY HAVE DOUBLED THEIR PACE

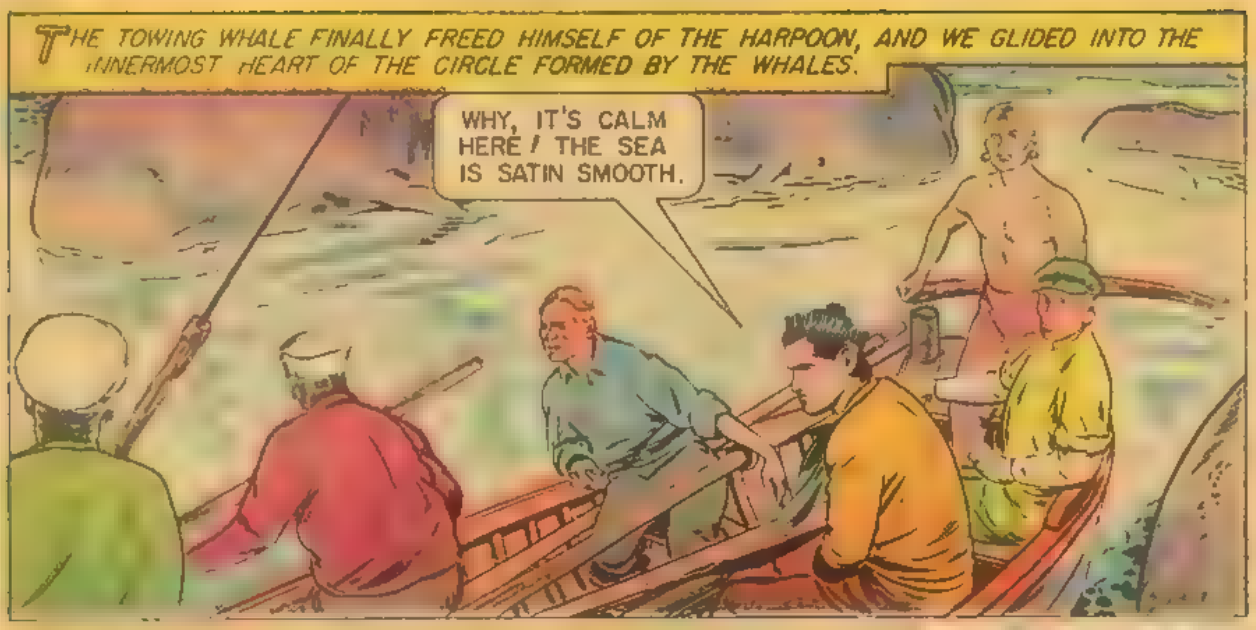

SUDDENLY, THE HERD PANICKED. ROUND THEY WENT LIKE BLIND THINGS, IN A VAST AND WILD CIRCLE.

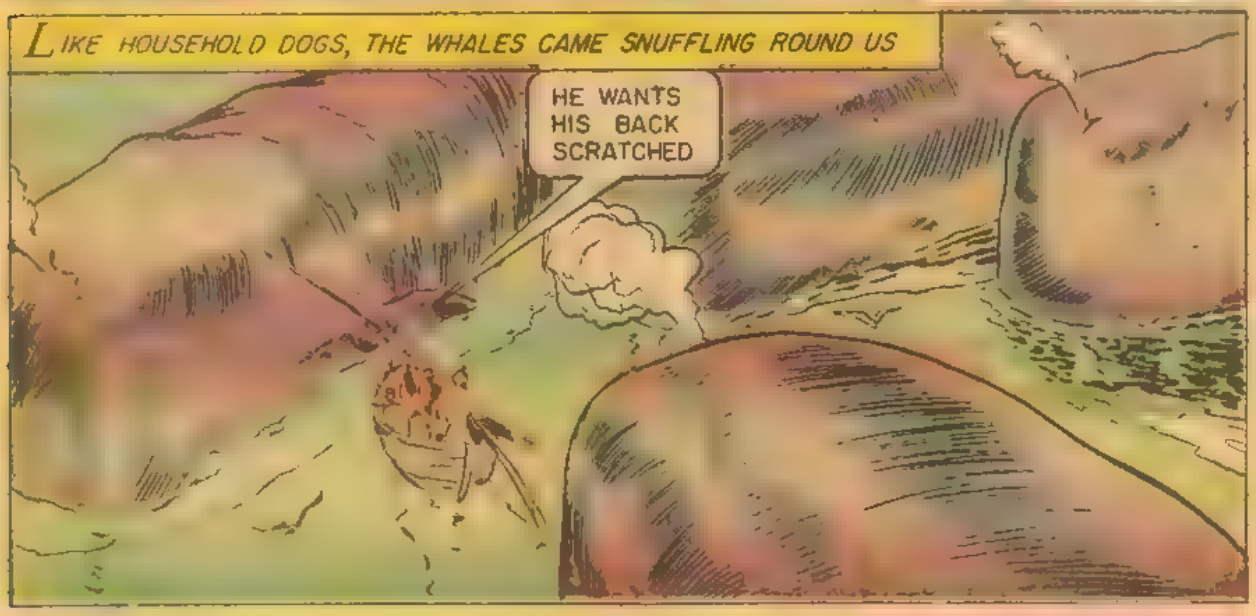

WE WENT FOR A LONE WHALE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CIRCLE. THE HARPOON FOUND ITS MARK. THEN . . .
HE'S TOWING US RIGHT INTO THE HERD!

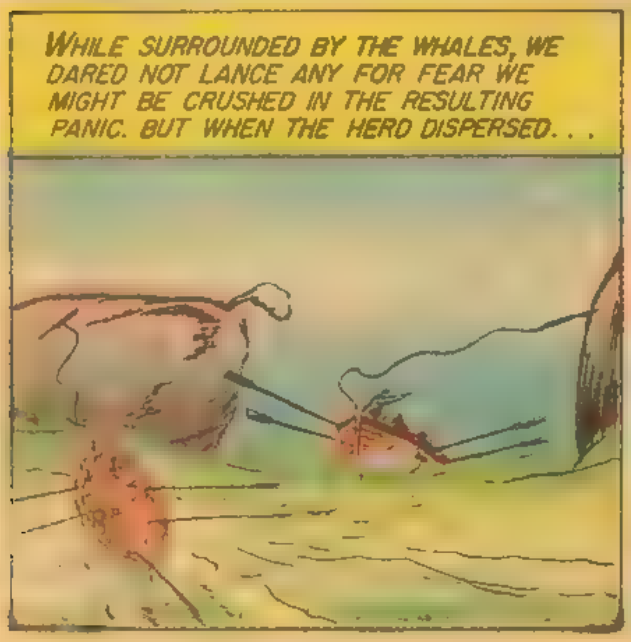

THE WHALE PLUNGED FORWARD, PULLING OUR BOAT LIKE A WHITE GASH THROUGH THE SEA OF MONSTERS.

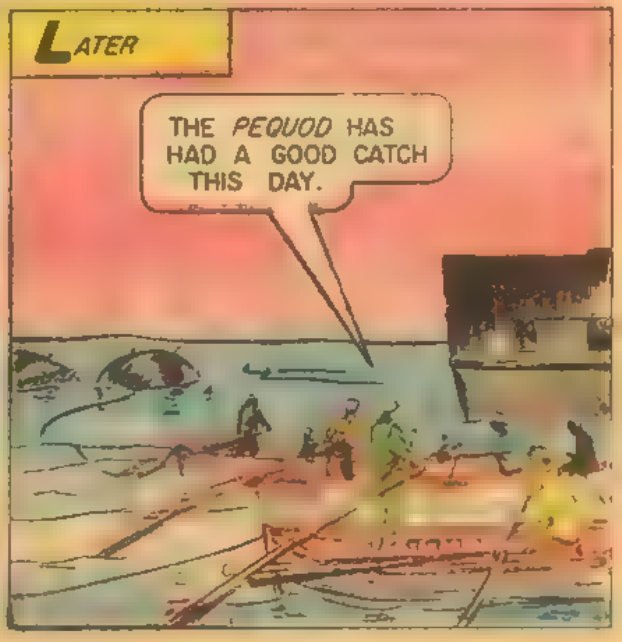

WE KNEW NOT AT WHAT MOMENT WE MIGHT BE LOCKED IN AND CRUSHED.


QUEEQUEG AND STARBUCK CHANGED PLACES. NOT A BIT DAUNTED, QUEEQUEG STEERED US MANFULLY.


THE TOWING WHALE FINALLY FREED HIMSELF OF THE HARPOON, AND WE GLIDED INTO THE INNERMOST HEART OF THE CIRCLE FORMED BY THE WHALES.
WHY, IT'S CALM HERE! THE SEA IS SATIN SMOOTH.


LIKE HOUSEHOLD DOGS, THE WHALES CAME SNUFFLING ROUND US
HE WANTS HIS BACK SCRATCHED

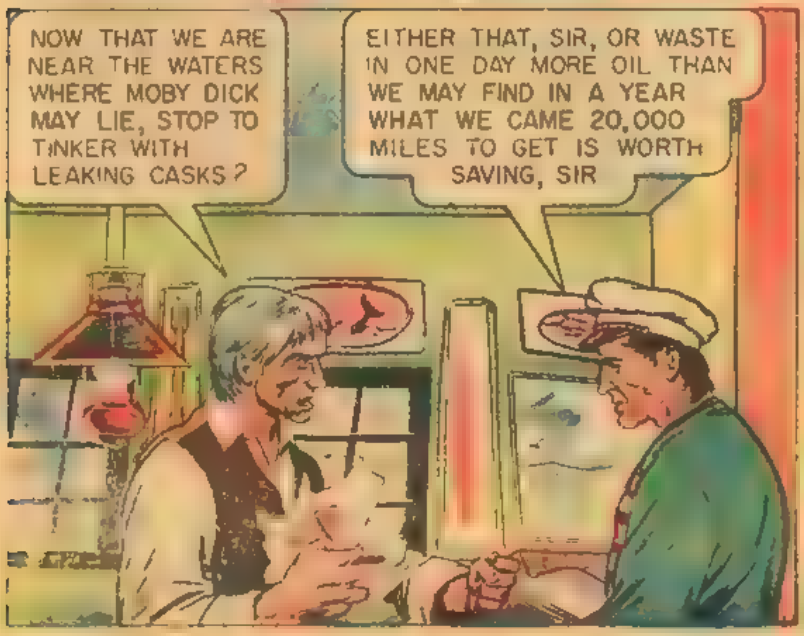

WHILE SURROUNDED BY THE WHALES, WE DARED NOT LANCE ANY FOR FEAR WE MIGHT BE CRUSHED IN THE RESULTING PANIC. BUT WHEN THE HERD DISPERSED...


LATER
THE PEQUOD HAS HAD A GOOD CATCH THIS DAY.

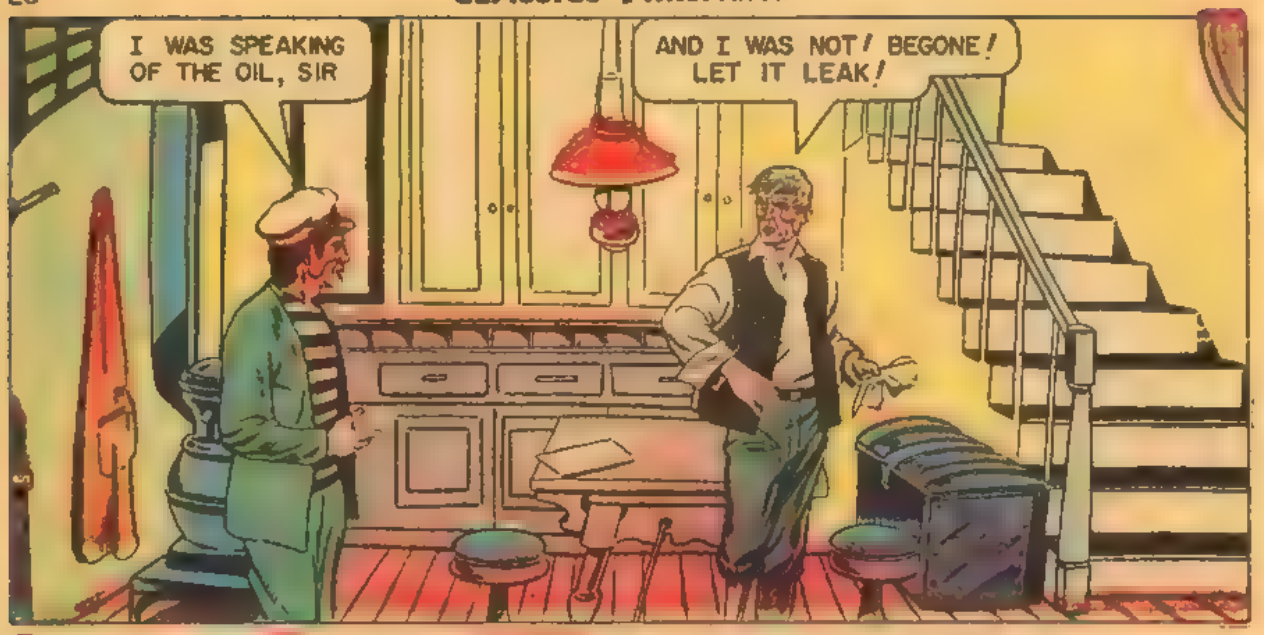
DAYS LATER, AS THE PEQUOD WAS NEARING CHINA WATERS . . .
THE OIL CASKS IN THE HOLD ARE LEAKING, MR STARBUCK. WE WILL HAVE TO STOP TO PLUG THEM.
I WILL REPORT IT TO CAPTAIN AHAB

AHAB HEARD STARBUCK'S FOOTSTEP AT THE DOOR
BEGONE !

IT IS I, CAPTAIN AHAB. THE OIL IN THE HOLD IS LEAKING, SIR. WE MUST STOP TO FIND THE LEAK.

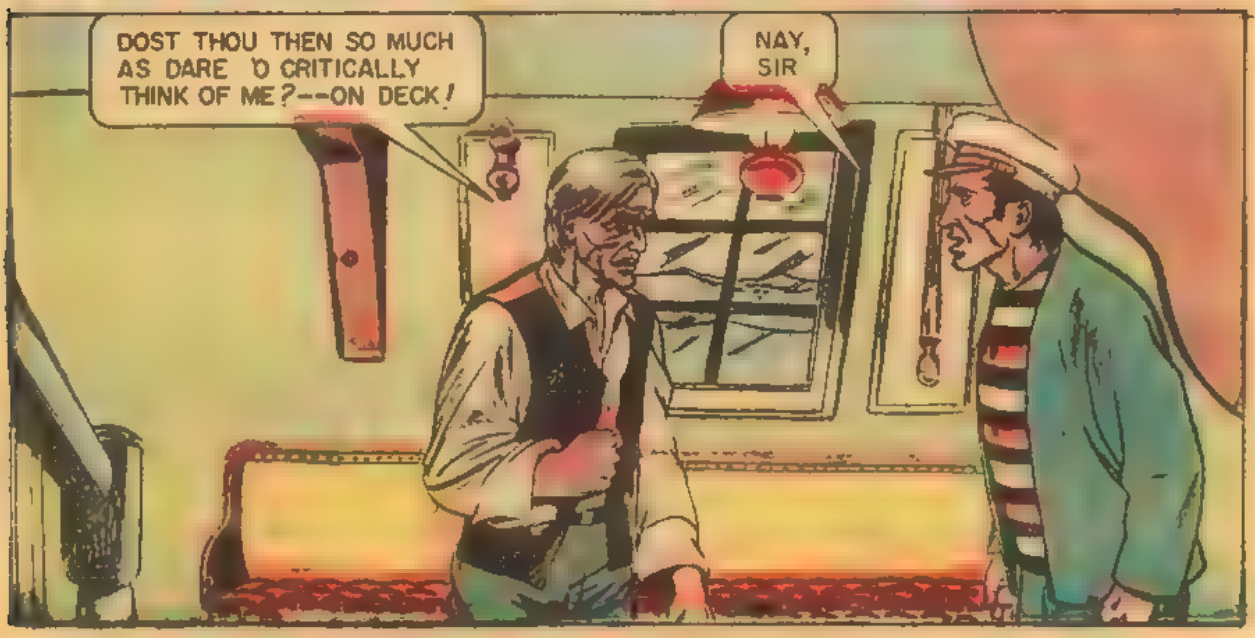

NOW THAT WE ARE NEAR THE WATERS WHERE MOBY DICK MAY LIE, STOP TO TINKER WITH LEAKING CASKS ?
EITHER THAT, SIR, OR WASTE IN ONE DAY MORE OIL THAN WE MAY FIND IN A YEAR WHAT WE CAME 20,000 MILES TO GET IS WORTH SAVING, SIR

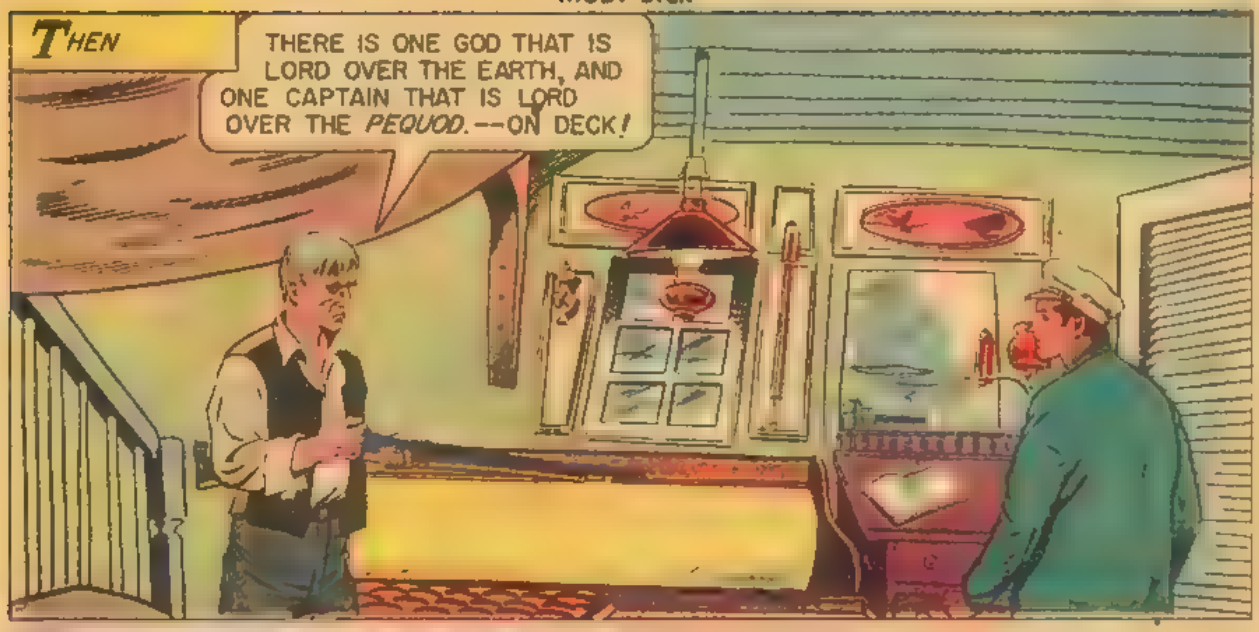
SO IT IS, IF WE GET IT

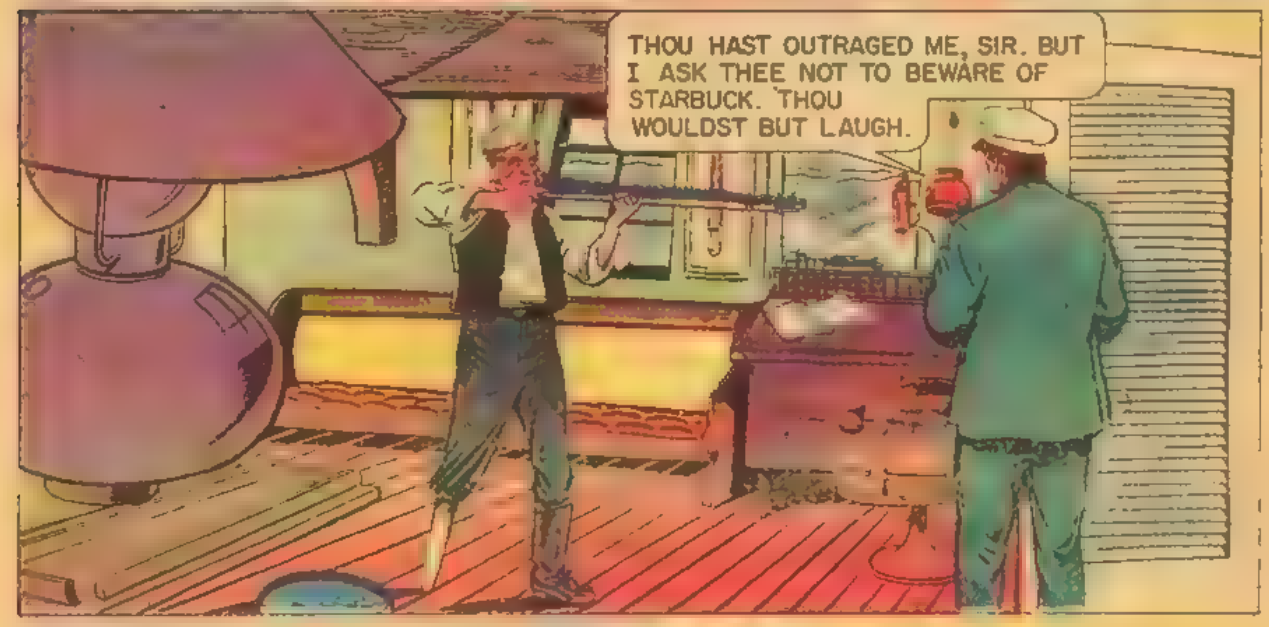

I WAS SPEAKING OF THE OIL, SIR
AND I WAS NOT! BEGONE! LET IT LEAK!

WHAT WILL THE OWNERS SAY?
WHAT CARES AHAB?

SIR, A BETTER MAN THAN I MIGHT WELL PASS OVER IN THEE WHAT HE WOULD QUICKLY ENOUGH RESENT IN A YOUNGER MAN; AYE, AND IN A HAPPIER.


DOST THOU THEN SO MUCH AS DARE 'O CRITICALLY THINK OF ME?--ON DECK!
NAY, SIR


THEN
THERE IS ONE GOD THAT IS LORD OVER THE EARTH, AND ONE CAPTAIN THAT IS LORD OVER THE PEQUOD.--ON DECK!


THOU HAST OUTRAGED ME, SIR. BUT I ASK THEE NOT TO BEWARE OF STARBUCK. THOU WOULDST BUT LAUGH.

BUT LET AHAB BEWARE OF AHAB. BEWARE OF THYSELF, OLD MAN!

AS STARBUCK DISAPPEARED
WHAT'S THAT HE SAID? AHAB BEWARE OF AHAB? THERE'S SOMETHING THERE.

THE VOYAGE OF THE PEQUOD CONTINUED. ONE DAY . . .
BLACKSMITH, CANST THOU FORGE ME A HARPOON?
AYE, SIR

I FEAR SOMETHING, CAPTAIN AHAB. IS NOT THIS HARPOON FOR THE WHITE WHALE?
FOR THE WHITE FIEND!

FOR THE BARBS, THOU SHALT USE MY RAZORS, FOR NOW I NEITHER SHAVE NOR PRAY UNTIL BUT HERE — TO WORK!

LATER, WHEN THE HARPOON WAS READY TO BE TEMPERED
I BAPTIZE THEE IN THE NAME OF THE DEVIL!

WE SOON WERE SAILING IN THE JAPANESE SEAS.
WARM CLIMES NURSE CRUEL FANGS. A TYPHOON MIGHT AT ANY MOMENT BURST FROM THAT CLOUDLESS SKY.
AND THAT AFTERNOON . .
THE PEQUOD WAS TORN OF HER CANVAS. WHEN DARKNESS CAME ON, SKY AND SEA ROARED AND SPLIT WITH THUNDER, AND BLAZED WITH LIGHTNING.

ON DECK, IN A MOMENT OF PROFOUND DARKNESS.
WHO'S THERE?

OLD THUNDER!

SUDDENLY . . .
LOOK ALOFT!

AT EACH TRI-POINTED LIGHTNING ROD END, EACH OF THE THREE TALL MASTS WAS SILENTLY GLOWING.

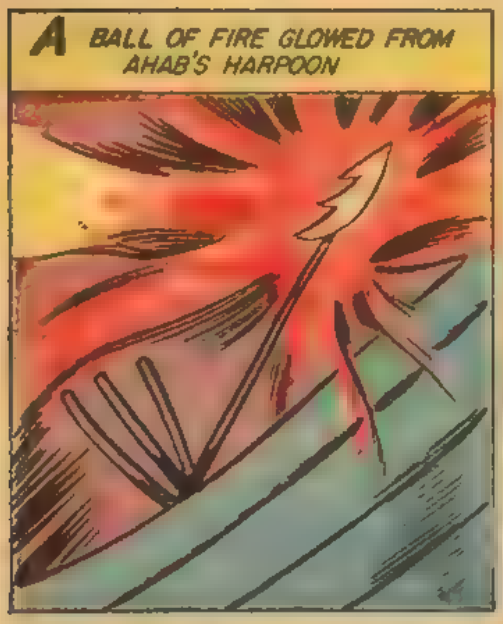
THIS PHENOMENON, CALLED THE CORPOSANTS, WAS NOT UNCOMMON AT SEA, BUT THE CREW WATCHED AS IF ENCHANTED.
IT IS AN ILL OMEN
THE CORPOSANTS HAVE MERCY ON US ALL!

AYE, MEN! LOOK UP AT IT! THE WHITE FLAME BUT LIGHTS THE WAY TO THE WHITE WHALE!

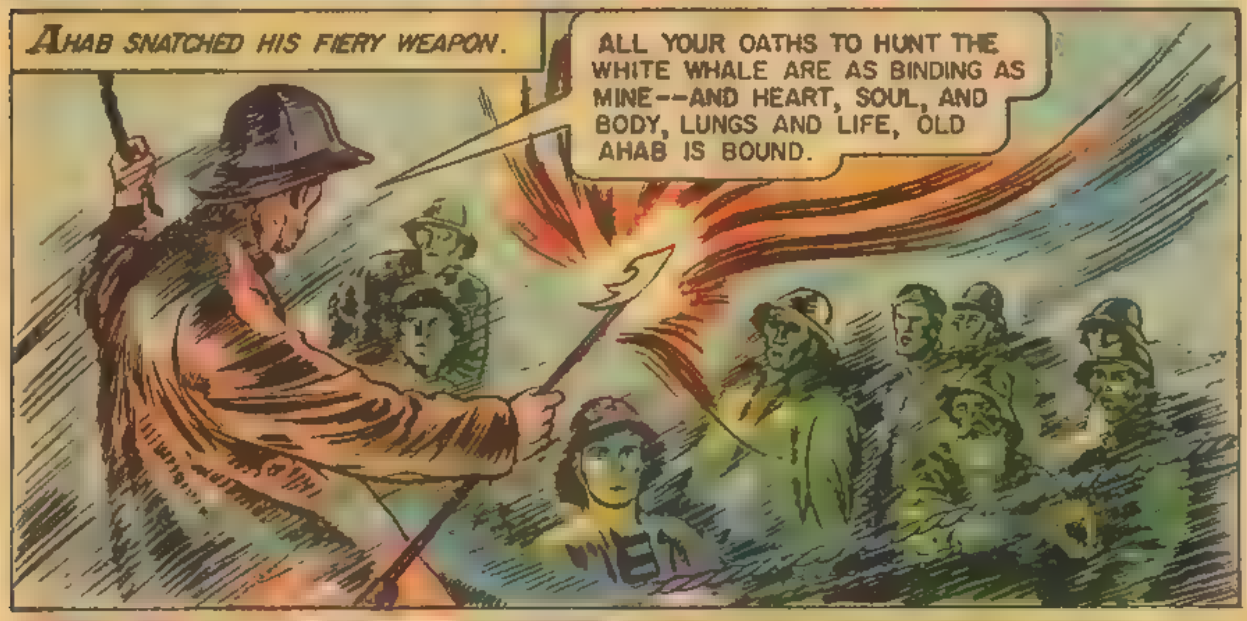
THEN AHAB TOOK THE BOTTOM LINK OF THE MAIN-MAST LIGHTNING ROD.
I WOULD FAIN FEEL THIS PULSE, AND LET MINE BEAT AGAINST IT--BLOOD AGAINST FIRE!

HE STOOD ERECT BEFORE THE LIGHTED MASTS.
LEAP! LEAP UP AND LICK THE SKY! I LEAP WITH THEE; I BURN WITH THEE!

THEN
THY HARPOON! THY HARPOON! LOOK!

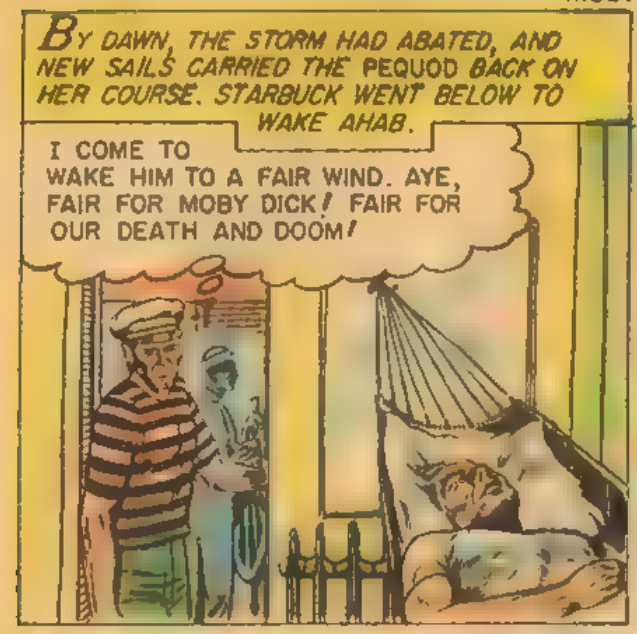

A BALL OF FIRE GLOWED FROM AHAB'S HARPOON

TURN BACK, OLD MAN! GOD IS AGAINST THEE!
YES--LET US TURN BACK!


AHAB SNATCHED HIS FIERY WEAPON.
ALL YOUR OATHS TO HUNT THE WHITE WHALE ARE AS BINDING AS MINE--AND HEART, SOUL, AND BODY, LUNGS AND LIFE, OLD AHAB IS BOUND.

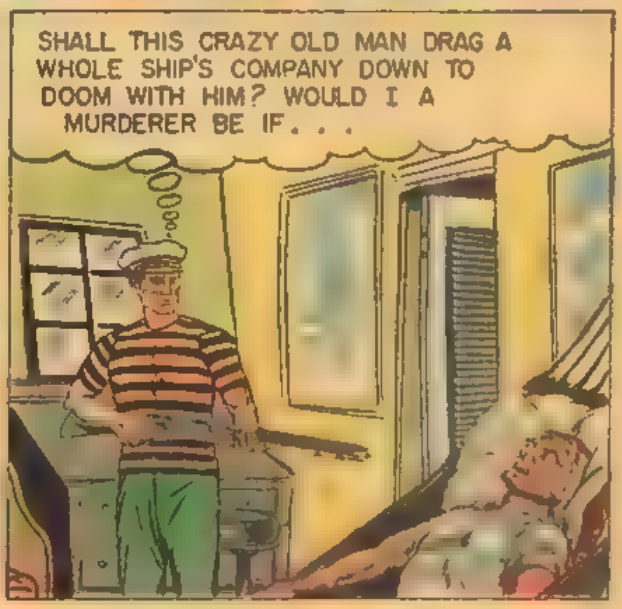
LOOK YE HERE; THUS I BLOW OUT THE LAST FEAR.

AND WITH ONE BREATH, HE EXTINGUISHED THE FLAME.


BY DAWN, THE STORM HAD ABATED, AND NEW SAILS CARRIED THE PEQUOD BACK ON HER COURSE. STARBUCK WENT BELOW TO WAKE AHAB.
I COME TO WAKE HIM TO A FAIR WIND. AYE, FAIR FOR MOBY DICK! FAIR FOR OUR DEATH AND DOOM!

BUT HOW TO STOP HIM? PUT HIM IN CHAINS? THAT GRAND OLD MAN WOULD BE MORE PITEOUS THAN A CAGED TIGER. I COULD NOT ENDURE THE SIGHT!

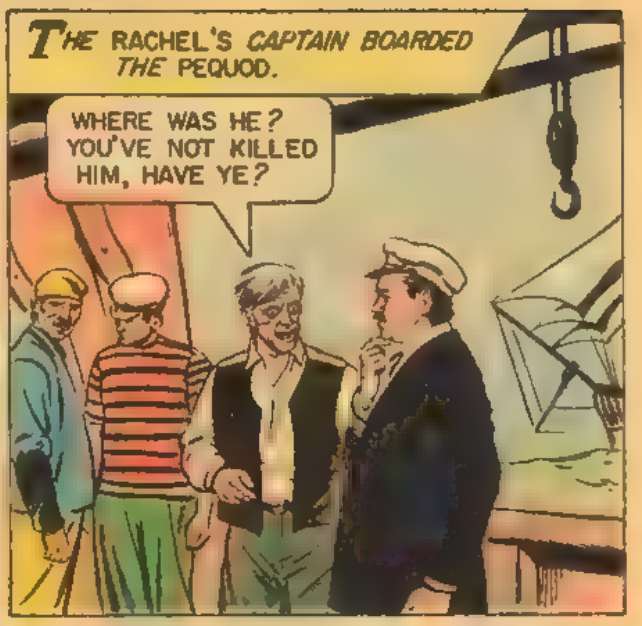
THIS MUSKET! THE VERY ONE HE POINTED AT ME!


SHALL THIS CRAZY OLD MAN DRAG A WHOLE SHIP'S COMPANY DOWN TO DOOM WITH HIM? WOULD I A MURDERER BE IF. . .

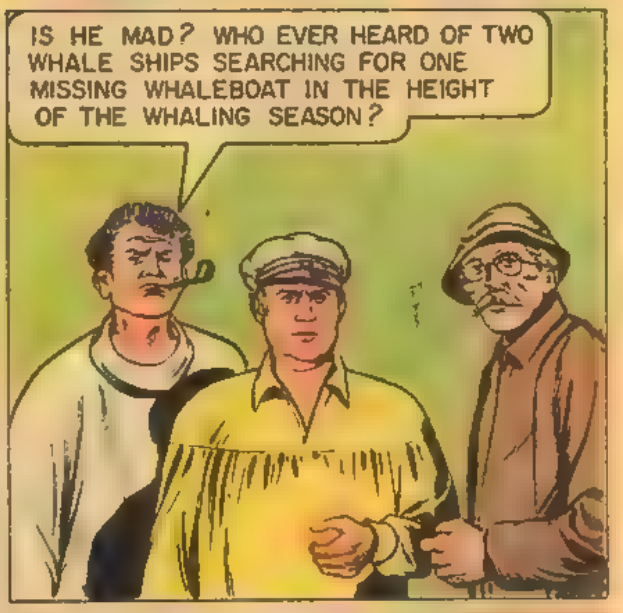
THEN AHAB CRIED OUT FROM A TORMENTED SLEEP.
OH, MOBY DICK, I CLUTCH THY HEART AT LAST!

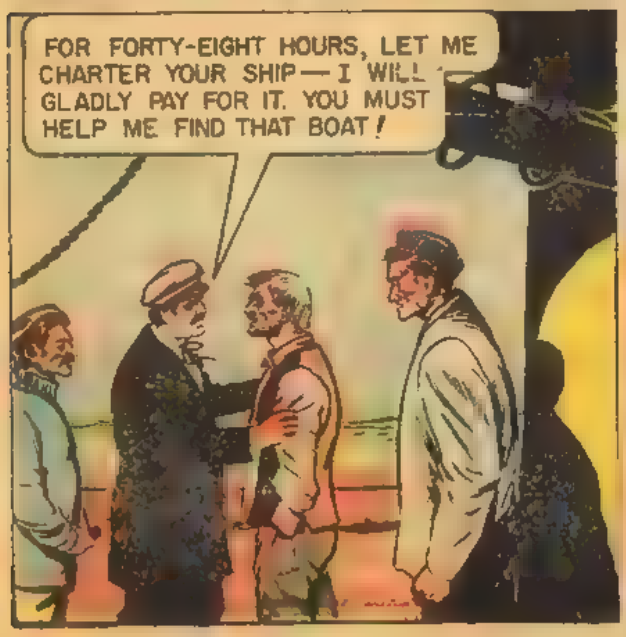
AND STARBUCK PLACED THE DEATH-TUBE IN ITS RACK, AND LEFT.

A FEW DAYS LATER, THE PEQUOD MET THE RACHEL, ANOTHER WHALER OUT OF NANTUCKET. AHAB KNEW THE CAPTAIN.
HAST SEEN THE WHITE WHALE?
AYE, YESTERDAY.


THE RACHEL'S CAPTAIN BOARDED THE PEQUOD.
WHERE WAS HE? YOU'VE NOT KILLED HIM, HAVE YE?

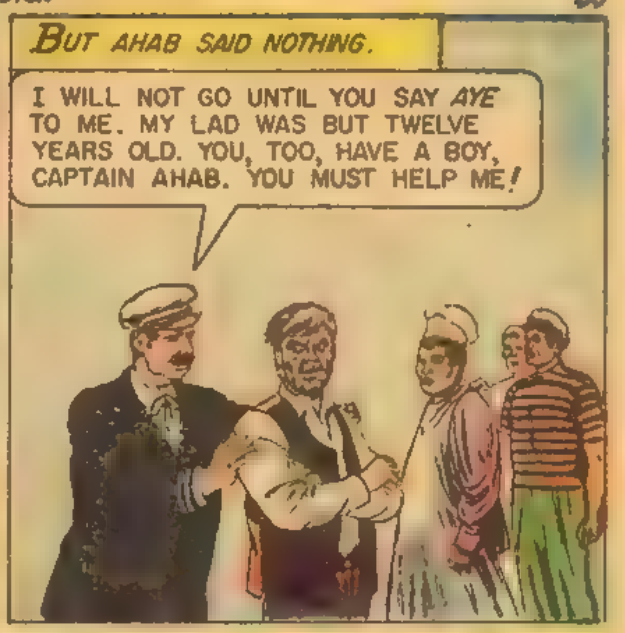
NAY. THAT WHITE MONSTER TOWED OFF A BOAT OF MINE. YE MUST HELP ME FIND IT!


IS HE MAD? WHO EVER HEARD OF TWO WHALE SHIPS SEARCHING FOR ONE MISSING WHALEBOAT IN THE HEIGHT OF THE WHALING SEASON?

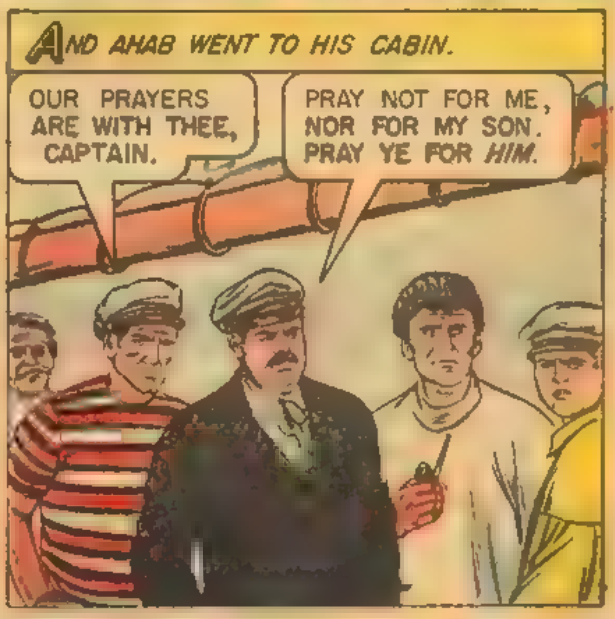

FOR FORTY-EIGHT HOURS, LET ME CHARTER YOUR SHIP — I WILL GLADLY PAY FOR IT. YOU MUST HELP ME FIND THAT BOAT!

MY SON — — MY OWN SON WAS ON IT.

OH! IT'S HIS SON HE'S LOST. THEN WE MUST SAVE THE BOY.


BUT AHAB SAID NOTHING.
I WILL NOT GO UNTIL YOU SAY AYE TO ME. MY LAD WAS BUT TWELVE YEARS OLD. YOU, TOO, HAVE A BOY, CAPTAIN AHAB. YOU MUST HELP ME!

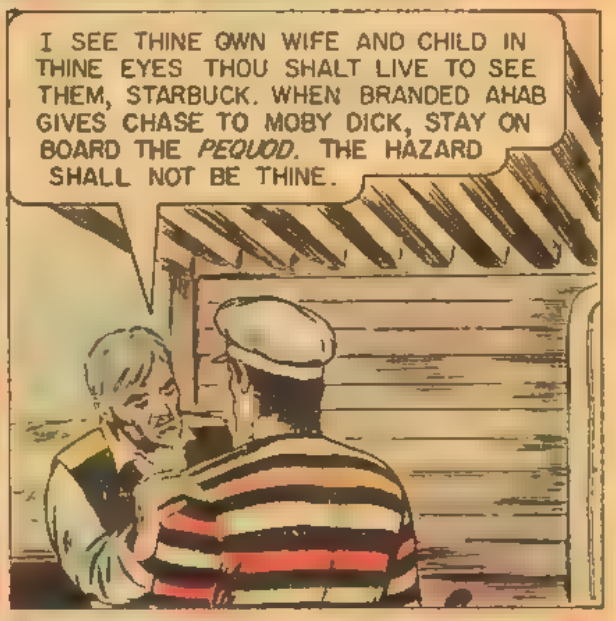
I WILL NOT DO IT. EVEN NOW I LOSE TIME. THE WHITE WHALE IS NEAR, AND I MUST GO.

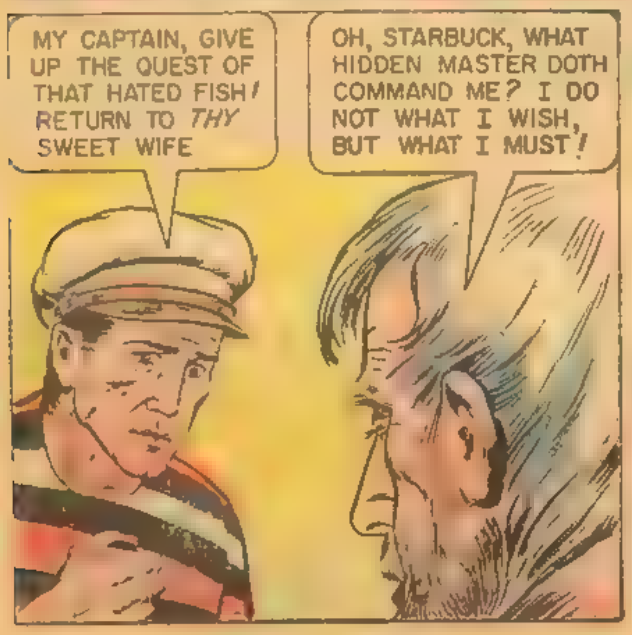

AND AHAB WENT TO HIS CABIN.
OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH THEE, CAPTAIN.
PRAY NOT FOR ME, NOR FOR MY SON. PRAY YE FOR HIM.

THE CAPTAIN WENT BACK TO HIS SHIP AS LONG AS THE RACHEL WAS IN VIEW, WE KNEW BY HER HALTING COURSE THAT SHE HAD NOT FOUND WHAT SHE SOUGHT.

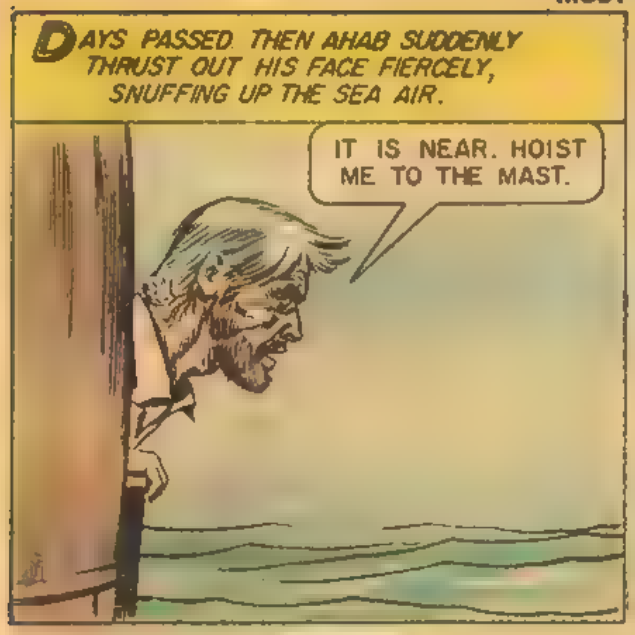
LATER THAT DAY, ON DECK
AH, STARBUCK, 'T IS A MILD, SWEET DAY, SUCH A ONE AS DOES MY DEAR WIFE EVER LOVE.

WIFE? RATHER A WIDOW, WITH HER HUSBAND YET ALIVE, SO LITTLE AM I AT HER SIDE


I SEE THINE OWN WIFE AND CHILD IN THINE EYES THOU SHALT LIVE TO SEE THEM, STARBUCK. WHEN BRANDED AHAB GIVES CHASE TO MOBY DICK, STAY ON BOARD THE *PEQUOD*. THE HAZARD SHALL NOT BE THINE.

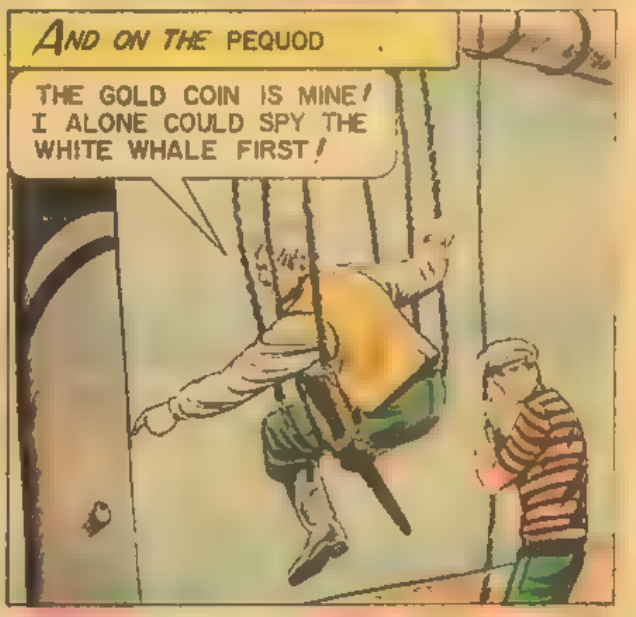

MY CAPTAIN, GIVE UP THE QUEST OF THAT HATED FISH! RETURN TO *THY* SWEET WIFE
OH, STARBUCK, WHAT HIDDEN MASTER DOTH COMMAND ME? I DO NOT WHAT I WISH, BUT WHAT I MUST!

AHAB GROWS OLD THESE GRAY HAIRS DO BLIND HIM SO THAT HE WOULD SEEM TO WEEP.

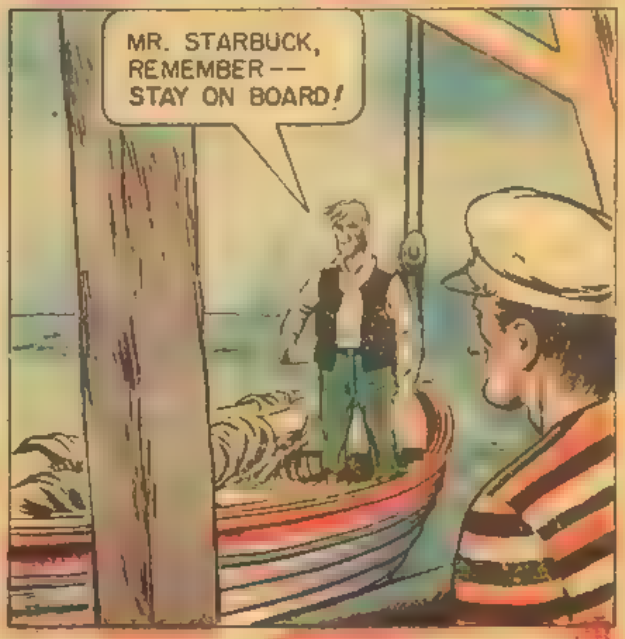

DAYS PASSED THEN AHAB SUDDENLY THRUST OUT HIS FACE FIERCELY, SNUFFING UP THE SEA AIR.
IT IS NEAR. HOIST ME TO THE MAST.

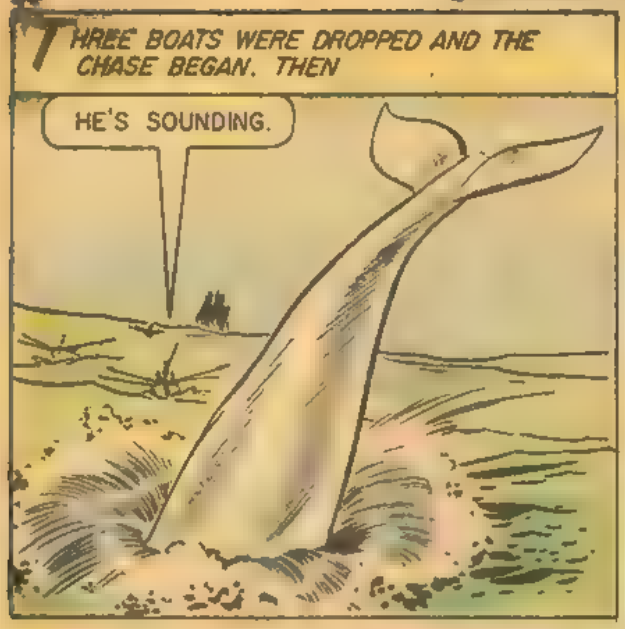
THEN . .
THERE SHE BLOWS! THERE SHE BLOWS! A HUMP LIKE A SNOW-HILL. IT IS MOBY DICK!

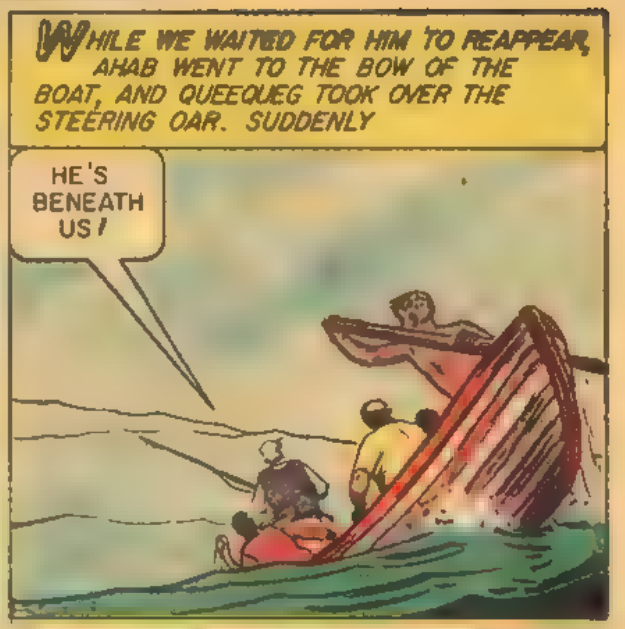
SOON HIS ENTIRE DAZZLING HUMP WAS VISIBLE, SLIDING ALONG THE SEA

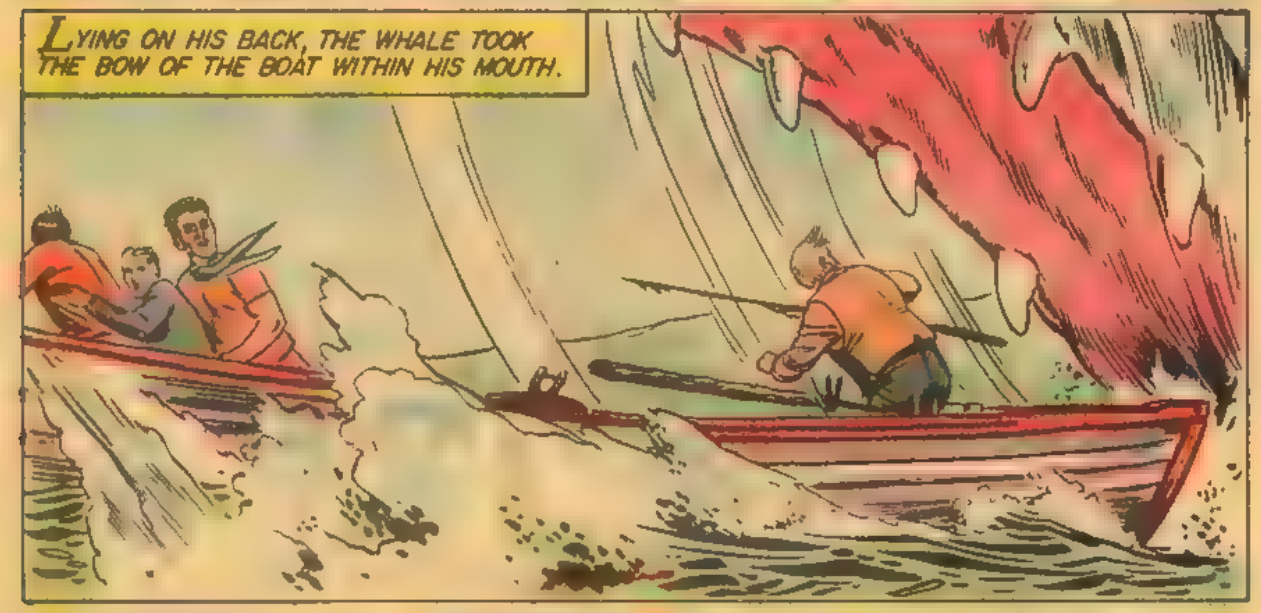

AND ON THE PEQUOD .
THE GOLD COIN IS MINE! I ALONE COULD SPY THE WHITE WHALE FIRST!

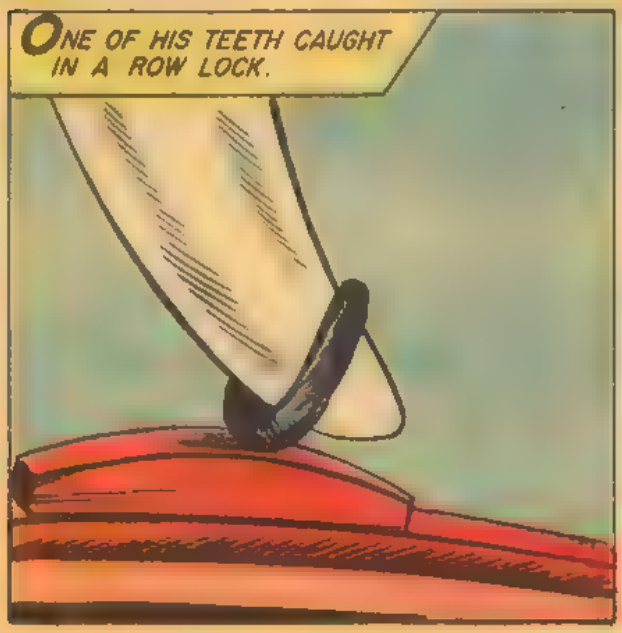
LOWER THE BOATS! LOWER THE BOATS! AFTER HIM!

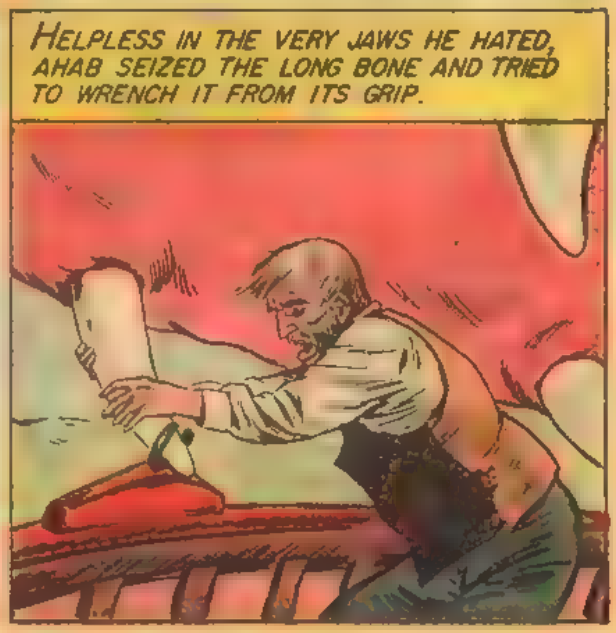

MR. STARBUCK, REMEMBER -- STAY ON BOARD!


THREE BOATS WERE DROPPED AND THE CHASE BEGAN. THEN
HE'S SOUNDING.

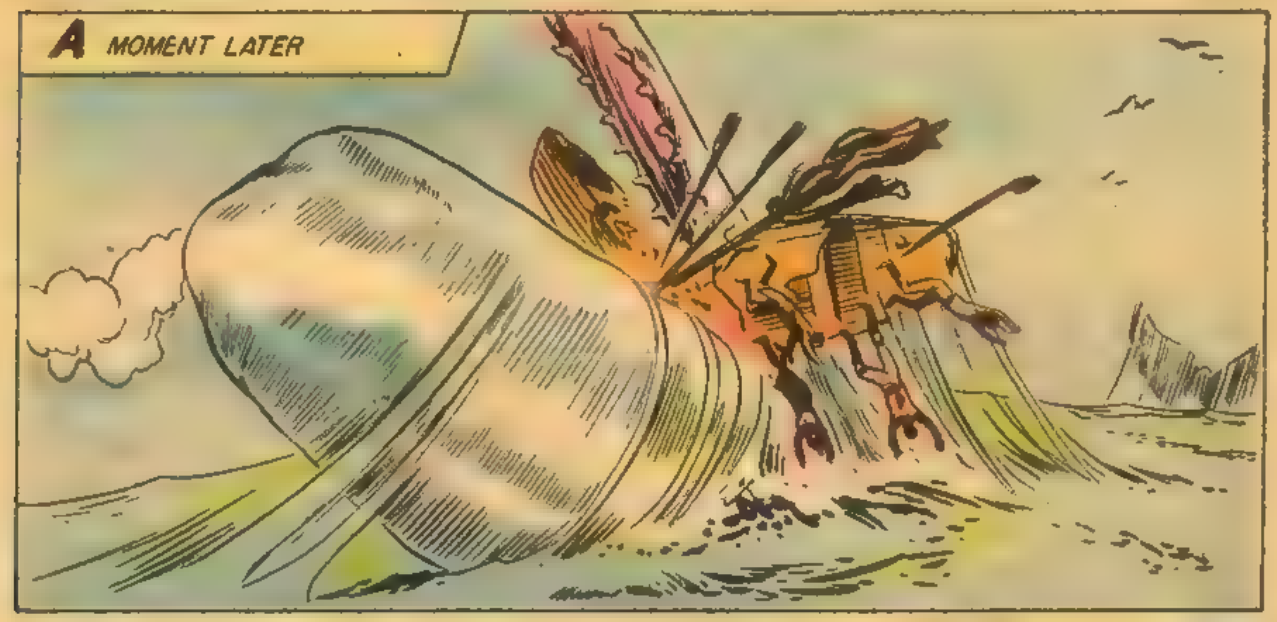

WHILE WE WAITED FOR HIM TO REAPPEAR, AHAB WENT TO THE BOW OF THE BOAT, AND QUEEQUEG TOOK OVER THE STEERING OAR. SUDDENLY
HE'S BENEATH US!

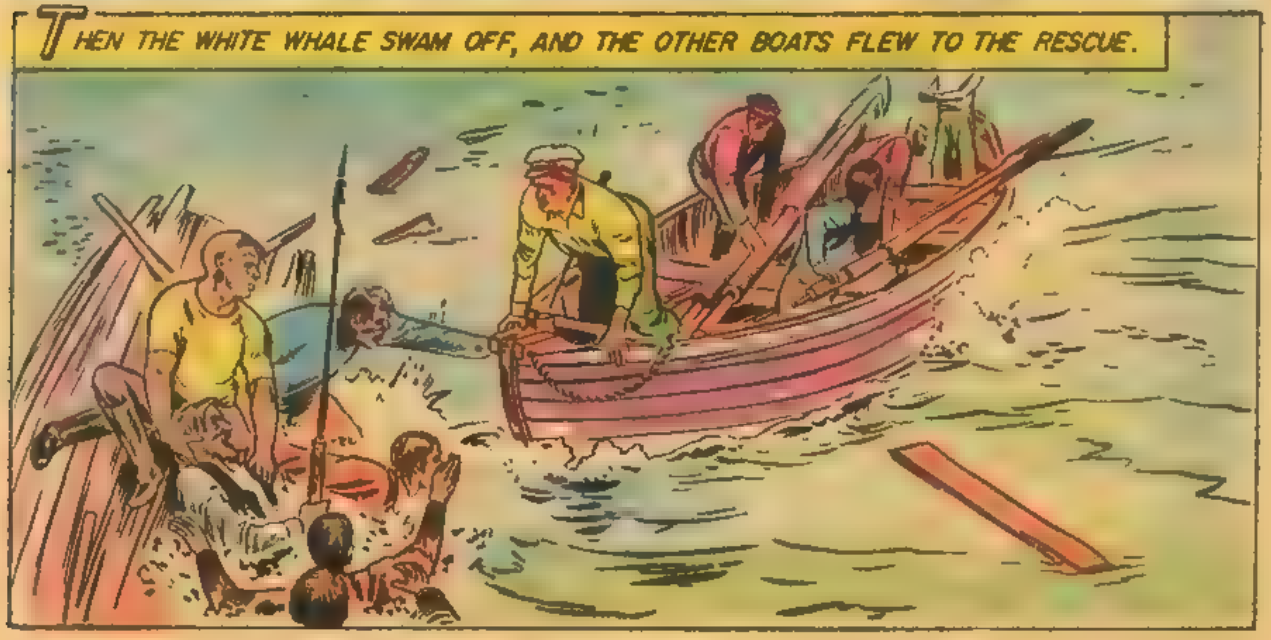

LYING ON HIS BACK, THE WHALE TOOK THE BOW OF THE BOAT WITHIN HIS MOUTH.

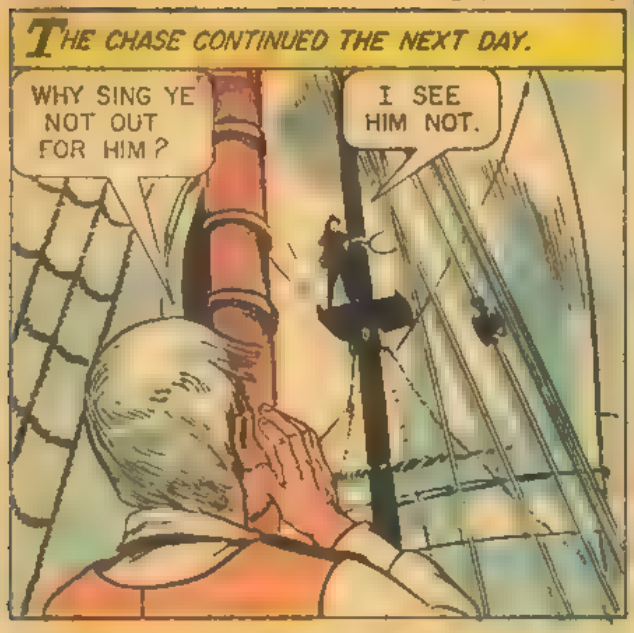

ONE OF HIS TEETH CAUGHT IN A ROW LOCK.


HELPLESS IN THE VERY JAWS HE HATED, AHAB SEIZED THE LONG BONE AND TRIED TO WRENCH IT FROM ITS GRIP.

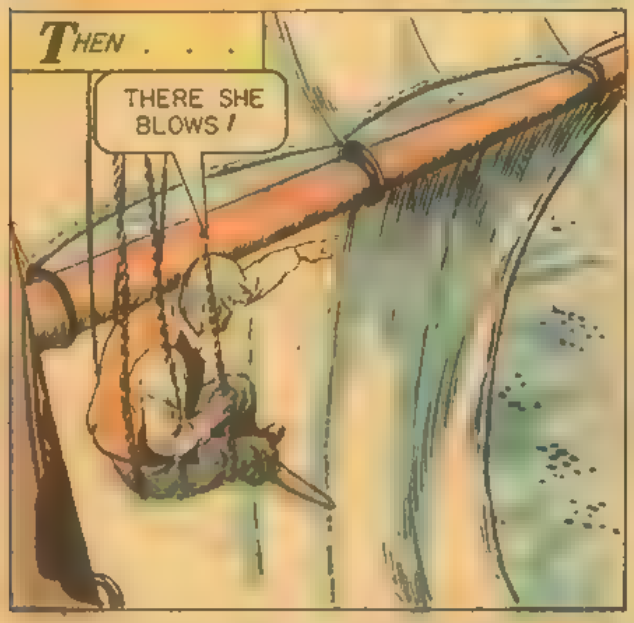
THEN THE JAW SLIPPED FROM HIM AND. . .

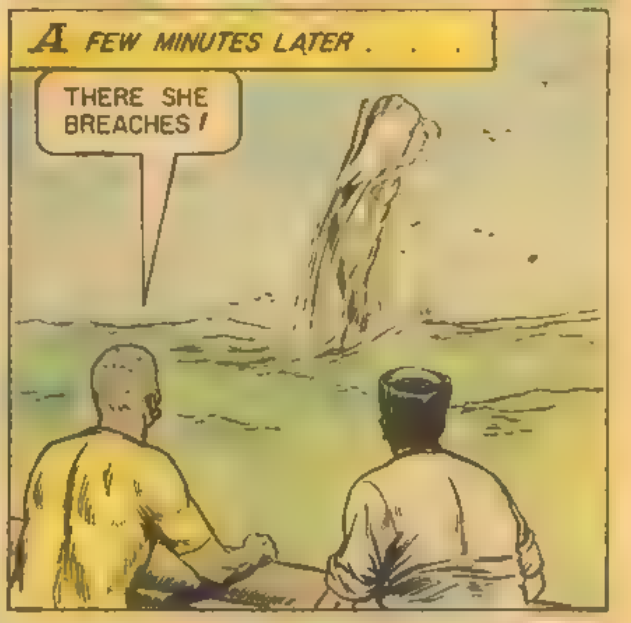

A MOMENT LATER

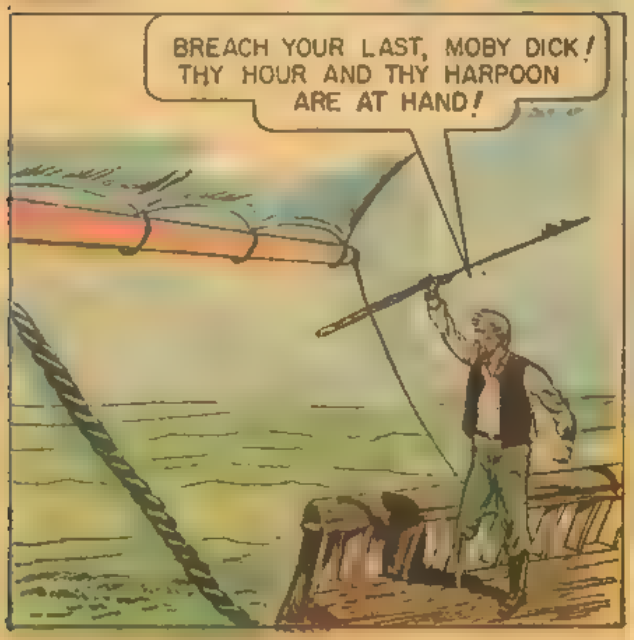

THEN THE WHITE WHALE SWAM OFF, AND THE OTHER BOATS FLEW TO THE RESCUE.

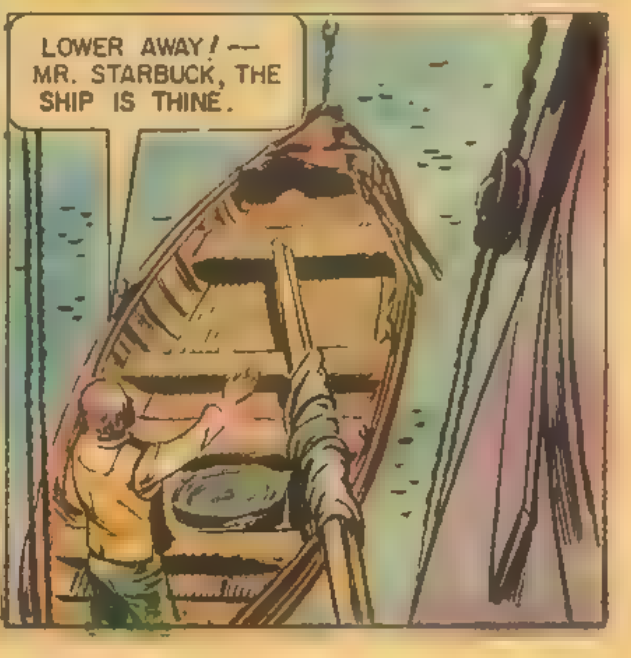

THE CHASE CONTINUED THE NEXT DAY.
WHY SING YE NOT OUT FOR HIM?
I SEE HIM NOT.

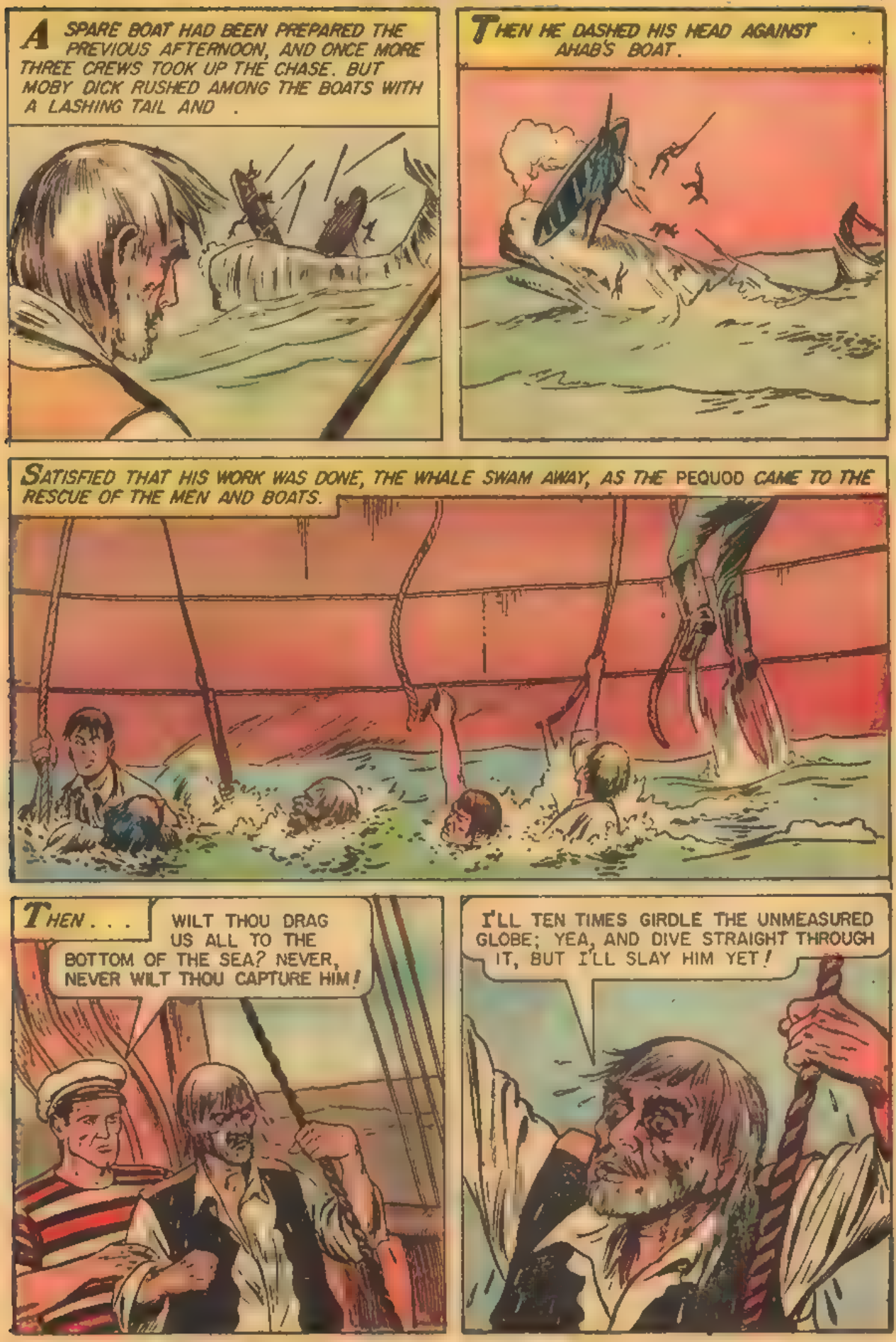
SWAY ME UP, MEN. YE HAVE BEEN DECEIVED.

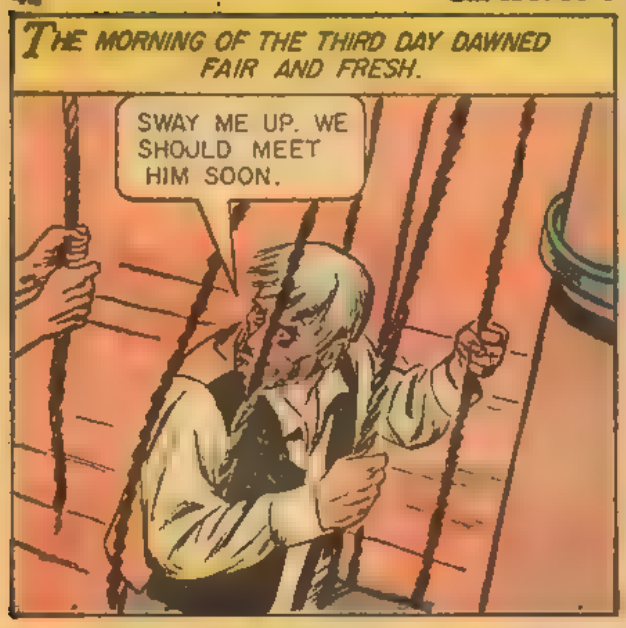

THEN . . .
THERE SHE BLOWS!

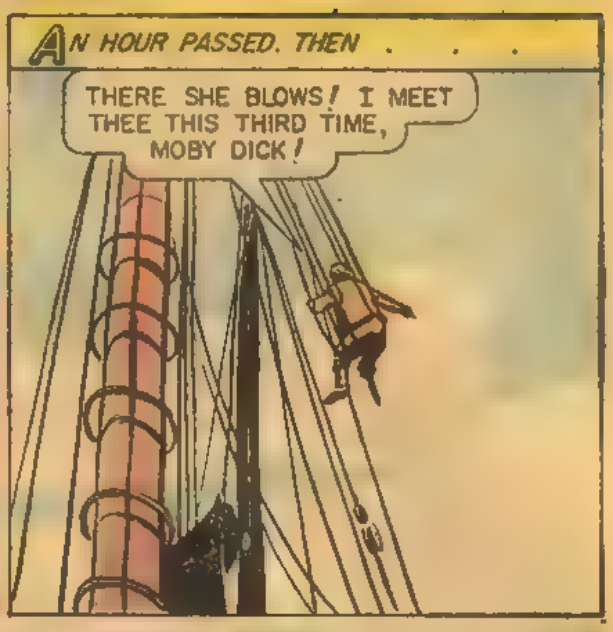

A FEW MINUTES LATER . . .
THERE SHE BREACHES!

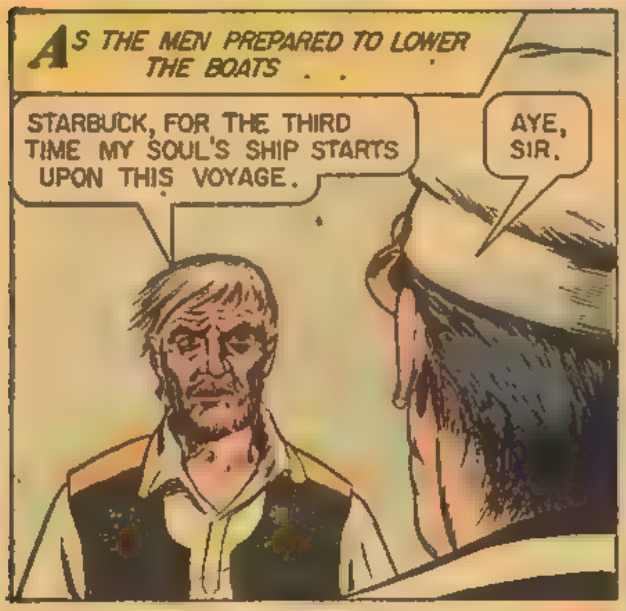

BREACH YOUR LAST, MOBY DICK! THY HOUR AND THY HARPOON ARE AT HAND!


LOWER AWAY! — MR. STARBUCK, THE SHIP IS THINE.


A SPARE BOAT HAD BEEN PREPARED THE PREVIOUS AFTERNOON, AND ONCE MORE THREE CREWS TOOK UP THE CHASE. BUT MOBY DICK RUSHED AMONG THE BOATS WITH A LASHING TAIL AND .
THEN HE DASHED HIS HEAD AGAINST AHAB'S BOAT.
SATISFIED THAT HIS WORK WAS DONE, THE WHALE SWAM AWAY, AS THE PEQUOD CAME TO THE RESCUE OF THE MEN AND BOATS.
THEN . . .
WILT THOU DRAG US ALL TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA? NEVER, NEVER WILT THOU CAPTURE HIM!
I'LL TEN TIMES GIRDLE THE UNMEASURED GLOBE; YEA, AND DIVE STRAIGHT THROUGH IT, BUT I'LL SLAY HIM YET!


THE MORNING OF THE THIRD DAY DAWNED FAIR AND FRESH.
SWAY ME UP. WE SHOULD MEET HIM SOON.

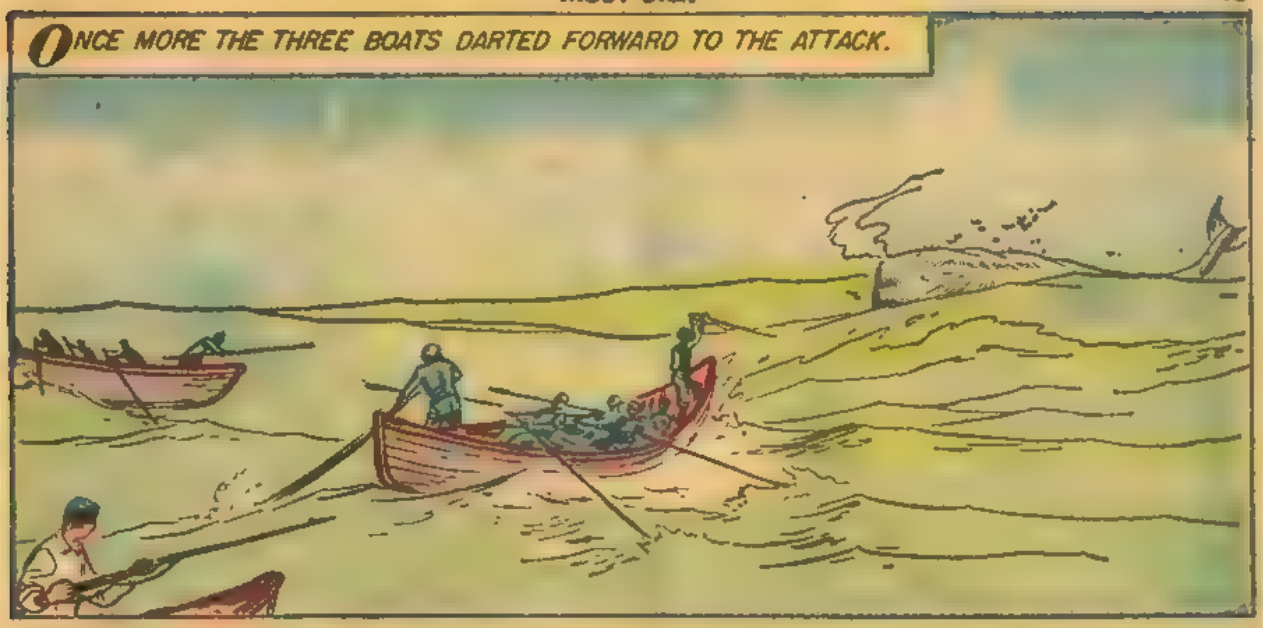

AN HOUR PASSED. THEN . . .
THERE SHE BLOWS! I MEET THEE THIS THIRD TIME, MOBY DICK!

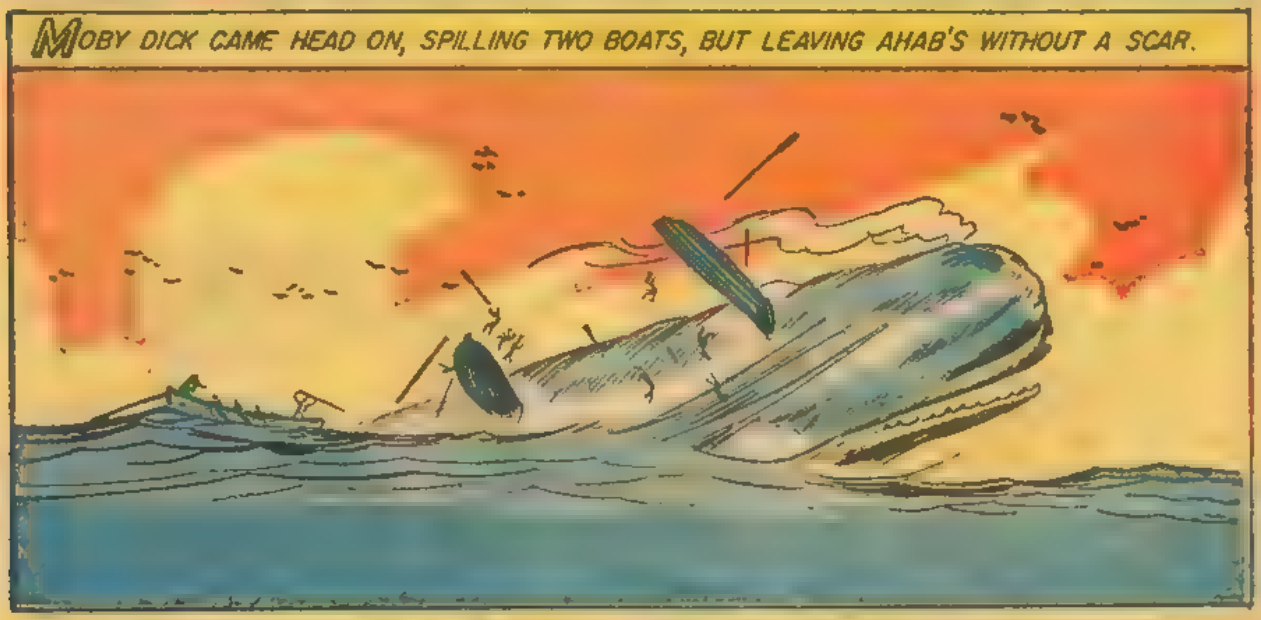

AS THE MEN PREPARED TO LOWER THE BOATS . .
STARBUCK, FOR THE THIRD TIME MY SOUL'S SHIP STARTS UPON THIS VOYAGE.
AYE, SIR.

I AM OLD. SHAKE HANDS WITH ME, MAN.
OH, MY CAPTAIN! GO NOT!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE, EVEN NOW, TO DESIST. MOBY DICK SEEKS THEE NOT. IT IS THOU, THOU, THAT MADLY SEEKEST HIM!

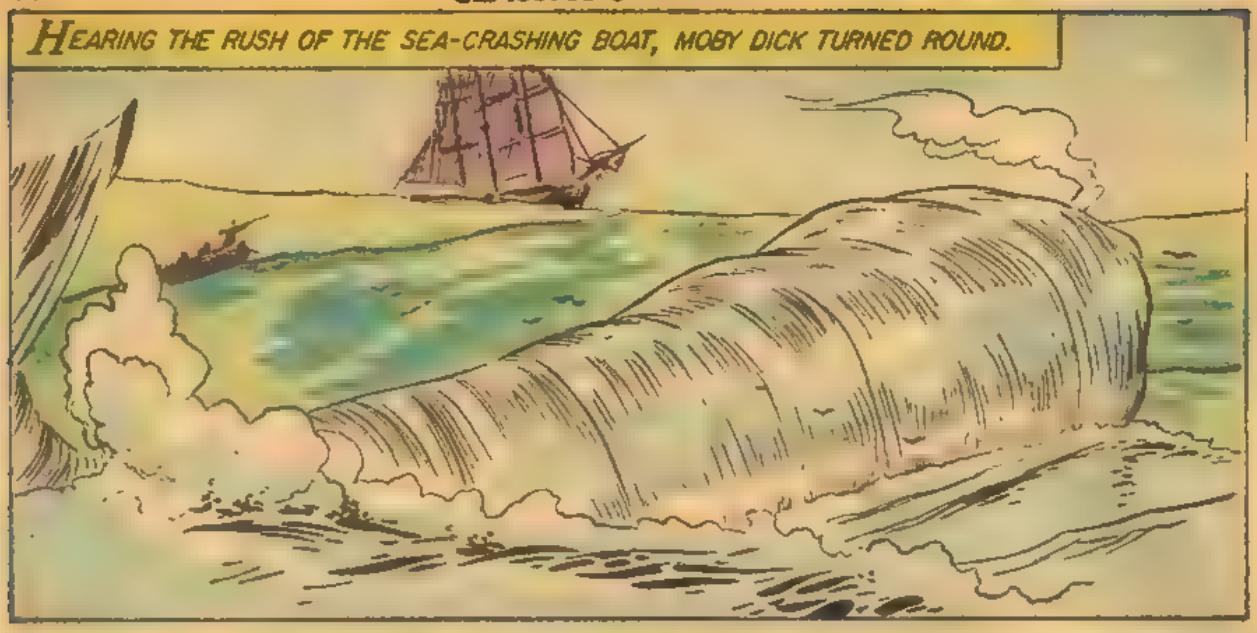
I MUST GO.-- LOWER AWAY!

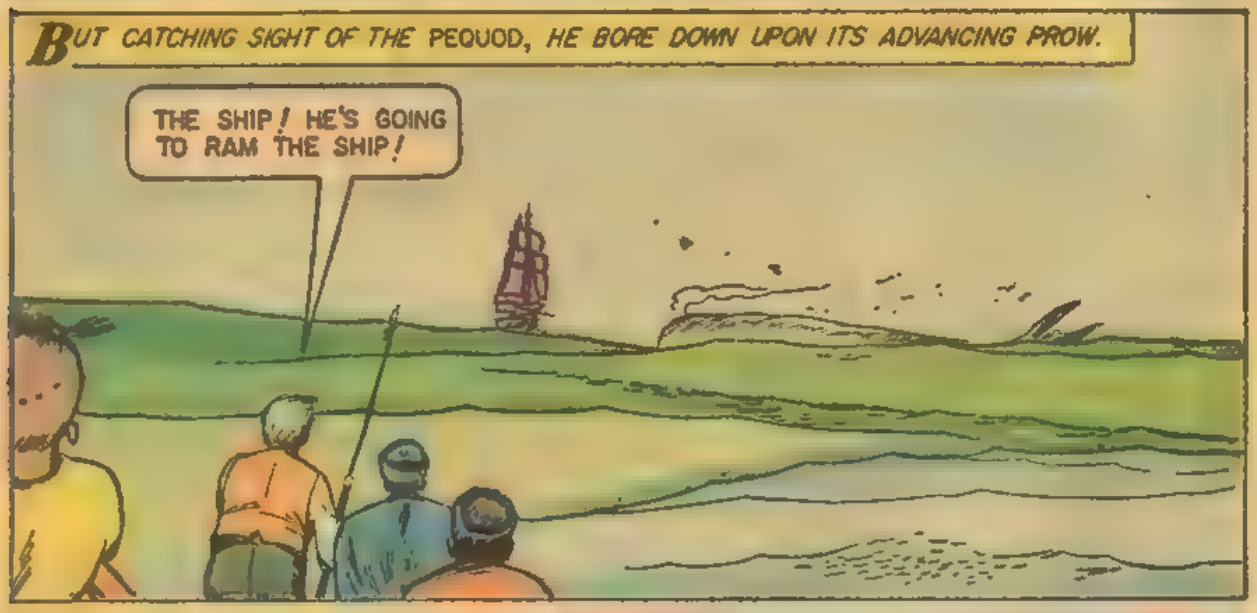

ONCE MORE THE THREE BOATS DARTED FORWARD TO THE ATTACK.

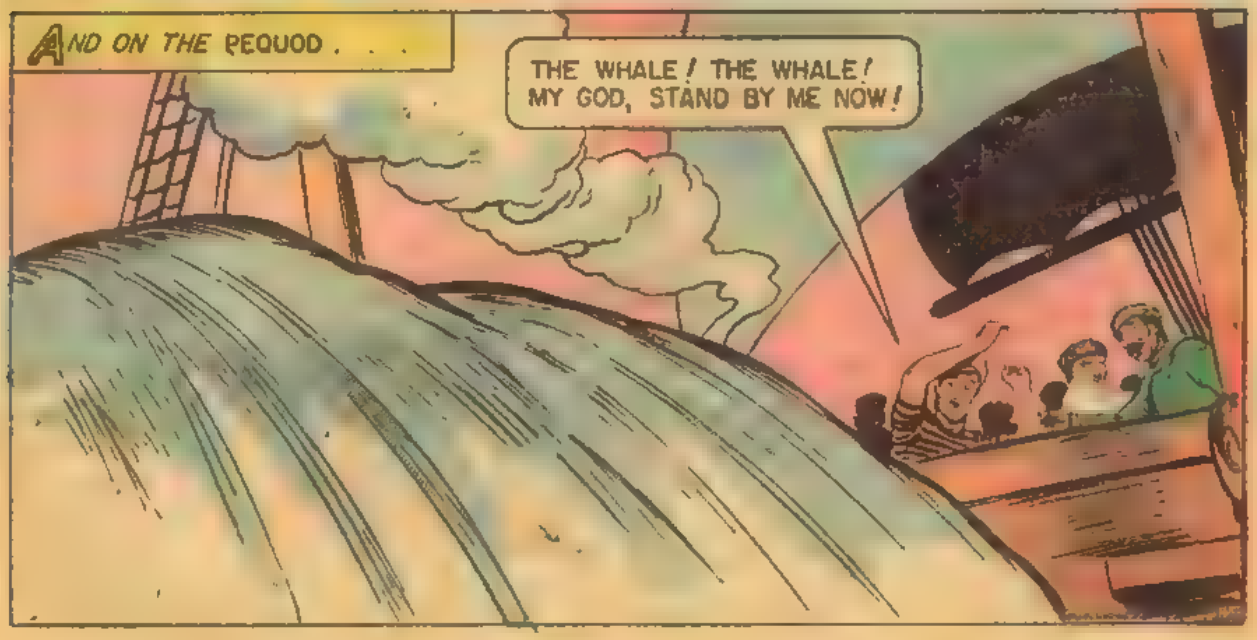

MOBY DICK CAME HEAD ON, SPILLING TWO BOATS, BUT LEAVING AHAB'S WITHOUT A SCAR.

THE TWO BROKEN BOATS WERE HOISTED BACK ON THE PEQUOD FOR REPAIRS.

AS AHAB'S LONE BOAT CONTINUED THE CHASE, IT WAS SURROUNDED BY SHARKS.
WHO CAN TELL WHETHER THESE SHARKS SWIM TO FEAST ON THE WHALE OR ON AHAB.


HEARING THE RUSH OF THE SEA-CRASHING BOAT, MOBY DICK TURNED ROUND.


BUT CATCHING SIGHT OF THE PEQUOD, HE BORE DOWN UPON ITS ADVANCING PROW.
THE SHIP! HE'S GOING TO RAM THE SHIP!


AND ON THE PEQUOD . . .
THE WHALE! THE WHALE! MY GOD, STAND BY ME NOW!

DEATH-GLORIOUS SHIP! MUST YE THEN PERISH, AND WITHOUT ME? OH, LONELY DEATH ON LONELY LIFE!

TOWARDS THEE I ROLL, THOU ALL-DESTROYING BUT UNCONQUERABLE WHALE. TO THE LAST I GRAPPLE WITH THEE; FROM HELL'S HEART I STAB AT THEE; FOR HATE'S SAKE I SPIT MY LAST BREATH AT THEE.

THUS, I GIVE UP THE SPEAR!

THE HARPOON WAS DARTED; THE STRICKEN WHALE FLEW FORWARD.

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSICS *Illustrated* EDITION, DON'T MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL, OBTAINABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

HERMAN MELVILLE

WHEN THE whale ship *Acushnet* sailed from New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1841, a young man named Herman Melville was among the crew. It was his first trip on a whaler, but it was not his first voyage.

Born in 1819, Melville left school at the age of fifteen, tried clerking and teaching, and then, still in his teens, ran off to sea and shipped as a cabin boy on a merchant ship bound for England. When he returned to America, he taught school for a while. Then the "everlasting itch for things remote" took hold of him, and, like Ishmael in *Moby Dick*, Melville signed up for a whaling voyage.

After eighteen months aboard the *Acushnet*, Melville jumped ship in the Marquesas Islands in the South Pacific Ocean. He did this partly as a protest against the hardships of a whaleman's life, and partly because he wanted to explore the islands.

For several months, Melville lived with the Taipis, natives whom he said were cannibals. Whether he was their guest or captive is not clear. In any case, he eventually left the islands in an Australian schooner. The story of his stay in the Marquesas can be found in his book, *Typee*.

Melville's next adventures, a mutiny in which he was a ringleader, and a year as a beachcomber on the island of Tahiti, were later set down in his book, *Omoo*.

In 1843, Melville went to the Hawaiian Islands, where he worked as a clerk and bookkeeper. Soon, however, his old whale ship, the *Acushnet*, arrived in Honolulu, and its captain began to look for deserters.

Perhaps to avoid being snatched back into whaling service, Melville signed, as a common seaman on an American man-of-war. Fourteen months later, his ship sailed into Boston harbor.

Melville now settled down to being a serious writer. After the publication of *Typee* and *Omoo*, he became famous as the man who escaped from the cannibals. His next books were *Mardi*, *Redburn* and *White Jacket*. *White Jacket* is an account of his life aboard the American man-of-war. It is a protest against the brutalities, especially floggings, which were then in practice aboard American naval vessels.

In 1847, Melville married the daughter of the Chief Justice of Massachusetts. A few years later, he and his family moved to a farm near Pittsfield, Massachusetts. There he became friends with Nathaniel Hawthorne, the famous author of *The Scarlet Letter* and *The House of the Seven Gables*. Melville dedicated his masterpiece, *Moby Dick*, to Hawthorne.

Moby Dick was published in 1851. It is based on Melville's own experiences aboard the *Acushnet*, upon his extensive studies of the whaling industry and upon his knowledge of the story of a white whale called Mocha Dick. This whale got his name from the island of Mocha, which is off the coast of Chile.

Other books followed *Moby Dick*. They included *Pierre*, *The Confidence Man* and *Billy Budd*. But Melville's popularity as a writer declined in his later years. In 1866 he was forced to earn his living as a customs inspector in New York City. He held this post for nineteen years. When he died, in 1891, his works were almost completely forgotten.

In the 1920's, however, there was a revival of interest in Melville's writings. He is now recognized as one of America's literary men of genius. And *Moby Dick* is today acclaimed as one of the greatest, and possibly the greatest, of American novels.